



No. 968.—VOL. XXXIV.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1859.

[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE]

THE DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

As we expressed our conviction last week that there were but two courses open to the Government after their defeat on Thursday evening—Resignation of Office, or Dissolution of Parliament—so we reiterate that opinion even more strongly, now that the Government has made its choice. In determining to dissolve Parliament Ministers have saved their honour, which could not but have been tarnished by acquiescence in the advice of Lord Palmerston—to bear their defeat—go on with their Reform Bill—and allow every kind of political manipulator to model or remodel, or even to knock to pieces, the distinguishing measure of the Session. Such a policy on the part of Ministers might have suited the selfish views of timid Conservatives and equally timid Liberals, as well as the sham friends of Reform, who desired, as the *summum bonum* of political happiness, to settle during the present Session a question which in itself they detested, and which was always rising up like an ill-omened spectre to disturb their calculations, their digestion, and their sleep. But such a course would have been fatal to the political character of the Administration, collectively and individually. It would have inflicted a blow on the whole system of Parliamentary government, shaken the faith of the nation in the purity of its public men, and thrown the great and illustrious party of Conservatives into such a dirty slough of Despond that it would never have been enabled to clean itself again during the lifetime of any existing member of the Derby Administration. For not having adopted this weak and suicidal course the Government is entitled to praise alike for its honesty and its high-mindedness. But here the praise of the journalist must end. And further than this, the support of public opinion will not be given them.

Of the two courses open to them, and both alike honourable, the one was statesmanlike, dignified, and prudent; and the other was petulant, personal, and imprudent. They have not chosen the prudent or the statesmanlike course. Their vanity has outweighed their judgment. Thinking more of themselves than of their country, more of their present ease than of the future fortunes of England, they have thrown the whole kingdom into confusion, and seriously interfered with every man's business and profession—except those of the law-agent, the bill-sticker, and the publican.

They have besides aroused passions and prejudices which it would have been better to have let sleep. In counselling their Sovereign to dissolve Parliament, they have done that which will be attended with the highest inconvenience to the nation, and that which is most perilous in the present aspect of Europe. They have, moreover, sown the seeds of a popular and democratic agitation, out of which may grow what Mr. Disraeli designates as a Revolutionary Reform Bill, and not the safe, cautious, and rational Reform Bill which would be sufficient to preserve our existing liberties without imperilling them.

The grounds upon which this appeal is to be made to the country have been greatly narrowed by the discussions of Monday

night, and by Mr. Disraeli's address to the electors of Buckinghamshire. They have, in fact, been narrowed to issues purely personal. Lord Derby and his friends have acted as party men, and not as statesmen. They have combated the factiousness of their opponents by a far greater factiousness of their own. The verdict of the House of Commons on the Reform question was strictly and truly a verdict upon that question, and upon that alone; but, as it involved want of confidence, their clear duty was to retire. But, in dissolving, what is it they ask for? Do they call upon the country to support them in their lame and impotent Reform Bill? No. They abandon Reform altogether, and ask the opinion of the country on the utterly unimportant point, whether

Lord Derby's Administration is not the very best that can be formed at the present time? Ministers will have their answer, more emphatically than they imagine; but it is a pity such an answer cannot be given in the mode in which they have chosen to ask for it, without other answers on far different issues, and without the tempest of a popular agitation, which may give an impetus to our politics for the next fifty years, and hand over to mere numbers, at the expense of intelligence and property, the preponderating power in the government of this country.

Lord Derby should have resigned. As a mere party move, the dissolution of Parliament is a mistake. He might have gone out of office with dignity and self-respect, and with the full knowledge that he would have been at the head of the most powerful Opposition that has been seen in this country since the disruption of the Conservative phalanx in 1846. He might have held that great party firmly and compactly together, and strengthened it day after day by the defections certain to have taken place from the ranks of the incongruous parties, factions, and cliques on the other side. Weak as a Minister, either to do or to undo—weak in his foreign, and weak in his domestic, policy—he had but to quit office in order to become strong. And on that very question of Reform, which has impelled him to the mischievous course of a dissolution, he would, as the leader of the Opposition, have been enabled to procure for the country a far better, because safer, Reform Bill than can possibly grow out of the excited passions of a general election. It is evident from Lord John Russell's speech on Monday that the Whig Reform Bill, if such a thing be introduced this year, will



"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD."—PAINTED BY BAXTER—AT THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.
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not be more satisfactory than the Conservative one; and that, if Lord John has outbitten Mr. Disraeli, he has not bidden high enough to catch the favour of the country. And who shall be the bidder that shall bid sufficiently high, unless it be Mr. Bright? Nay, may not Mr. Bright himself be superseded by some fiercer claimant? May not the Reformer give way to the Revolutionist, the Gironde disappear before the Mountain?

But perhaps Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli calculate upon increasing the strength of their party by the result of the elections? If so, time will convince them of their mistake. If it were their desire to strengthen Conservatism they should have allowed the Whigs to come into office. That was their policy; but they blindly, or perversely, failed to see it.

To judge from some portions both of Lord Derby's and Mr. Disraeli's speeches, and Mr. Disraeli's address to his constituents, the country might suppose that the real issue which they want tried is one of confidence in Lord Malmesbury, as opposed to Lord Palmerston. In the name of the Prophet—figs; the mountain in labour with the mouse; the white elephant brought out with all his trappings and marched fifty miles to pick up a pin; these or any other fable or story suggestive of great agencies for the production of mean results throng before the mind at the bare supposition that such a turmoil should be created throughout our isles, to arrive at such a verdict as this.

But from whatever point of view we consider the Dissolution—whether as regards the fortunes of the Conservative party, the prospects of Reform, and the attitude to be taken by this country during the present uncertainties of Europe, and the war that is but too probable between France and Austria on the ancient battle-field of Italy, we consider it a mistake. Let us hope, however, that some good may come out of the evil, and that the new Parliament may produce new men and young blood for the service of England at a time that threatens, both abroad and at home, to be one of no ordinary difficulty.

THE DEFEAT OF MINISTERS.

The following article appeared in a portion of our last week's impression:—

AFTER a protracted debate, extending over nearly two weeks, and eliciting more real and effective eloquence from both sides of the House than any previous discussion of our time, the Reform Bill of the Government has been virtually rejected. The House of Commons early on Friday morning affirmed the resolution of Lord John Russell by a majority of 330 against 291, so that the almost unprecedented number of 621 members—within a small fraction of the whole House—were present on the occasion. The turn that the discussion assumed during the present week, consequent, no doubt, upon the ironical advice of Lord Palmerston that the Government should accept Lord John Russell's resolution, or any other indignity, rather than resign office, led to a clearer demarcation of parties than seemed probable when the debates commenced. The speech with which the Chancellor of the Exchequer closed the discussion made it evident to all the waverers and hangers-on of fortune that the Government had made up its mind to reject so degrading a position as that into which its political opponents would so willingly have driven it; and that, in the event of Lord John Russell's resolution being carried, either a resignation of the Ministry or a dissolution of Parliament would ensue. As the House at its rising adjourned until Monday next, in order to give the members of the Government time for consultation among themselves, the patience of the country will not be severely taxed in waiting for the result; and on Monday evening we may expect that Lord Derby in the Upper and Mr. Disraeli in the Lower House will announce the determination of the Government. In the meantime speculation of all kinds will be rife; and the quidnuncs of the clubs will amuse themselves by looking through their political kaleidoscopes and forming new and evanescent Ministerial combinations—baseless and worthless, but not utterly without symmetry and ingenuity. Into such speculative Cabinet-making we decline to enter. All we need say at present is that the Government has not (as Governments like to have) three courses before it. There are but two courses consistent with its dignity which it is possible to pursue;—the one is to resign, the other is to dissolve Parliament. But it will be the general opinion, although it have the choice of the two, that there is only one consistent with the highest and soundest policy, and the best for the Conservative cause, of which it claims to be the representative—and that is to resign. To Lord John Russell will then be left the heavy responsibility of Administration, and the still heavier responsibility of introducing a new and satisfactory Reform Bill.

The Committee of the Indian Mutiny Relief Fund have issued their second annual statement. It shows that the total amount of subscriptions raised, with interest and premium, is £442,476. Upwards of £40,000 of this has been given to sufferers in Great Britain.

The return of Count de Cavour from Paris gave rise to an imposing demonstration of the people at Turin, who received the Minister with cries of "Long live the King!" "Long live Cavour!" "Long live Italy!" "Long live France!" The *Stafetta* of Turin states that a society of ladies has been formed in that city to supply the military hospitals and ambulances with lint and linen bandages in case of war.

Attention having been recently called in Belgium to the advisability of encouraging fresco-painting, the Government has obtained cartoons of some of the principal modern works of that kind, and has decided that an exhibition of them, and of others which may be presented by Belgian or foreign artists, shall take place in May. Works intended for this exhibition must be sent to the Direction of Fine Arts at Brussels before the 1st of May.

TRADING PROSPECTS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.—A correspondent of the *Times* gives the following extract from a letter, under date Feb. 9, from Vancouver's Island, British Columbia:—"Everything is enormously dear and very inferior here, as are all American goods (except stoves) to English articles. There is a splendid field for British merchants here. They can drive the Americans out of the field, and by selling at lower prices raise the colony's progress and population. Everything to wear, to eat, to drink, every tool, every article of furniture, any or every thing will sell, and that at a splendid profit, even when selling at lower than the American rates; the only condition requisite to observe being that the articles should all be of the best quality. A miner will give any money for quality, shrewd man as he is. Vessels of 1000 tons can go into the Fraser River to our proposed new capital, Queenborough, and should trade there direct from England. Labouring men can find any amount of employment here. The opening is very great. No man can hunger here who has hands. Women are at a premium inexpressible by figures."

THE ENFIELD RIFLES.—An interesting dispute has arisen out of the report that a large proportion of the Enfield rifles in India are found to be of little value, from the impracticability of loading them after they have been fired upwards of a dozen times in rapid succession. Some writers lay the blame on the softness of the iron, some on the mechanical effect produced on the barrel by firing with the bayonet fixed, and others on other causes; but a leading article in the *Morning Post* maintains in a tone of authority that it is not the construction of the piece, but the ammunition, which is in fault. The lubricating matter in the cartridge, according to this account, produces by chemical action on the lead a glutinous coat, which impedes the loading; and this writer deprecates the decision of the authorities, who are said to have determined to meet the difficulty by reducing the diameter of the Enfield ball.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The Emperor and Empress on Monday night honoured the Opéra Comique with their presence to witness the first representation of M. Meyerbeer's "Pardon de Ploermel."

The Conference on the affairs of the Danubian Principalities opened on Thursday. The discussion of the Danubian navigation question is to be deferred to some future period.

A review of the troops forming the Army of Paris took place on Sunday in the Champ de Mars. There were 35,000 men under arms. The infantry was composed of sixteen regiments of the line, four battalions of riflemen, the corps of firemen, and two battalions of the Municipal Guard of Paris. The cavalry consisted of twelve squadrons of Hussars, the 3rd and 6th Dragoons, of twelve squadrons of the 7th Dragoons and 4th Cuirassiers, of eleven squadrons of the 1st and 2nd Carabiniers, of two squadrons of the Municipal Guard of Paris, and of a squadron of the Gendarmerie of the Seine. The artillery was composed of the batteries of the 2nd Regiment of Foot Artillery and of the 14th Regiment of Mounted Artillery. The troops were commanded by Marshal Magnan. The Emperor arrived at the Champ de Mars at half-past one. He was accompanied by Prince Napoleon, Marshals Vaillant and Randon, and several Generals. The Empress, the Prince Imperial, the Princess Mathilde, and the Princess Clotilde were present at the review, which they witnessed from the balcony of the Military School. The army was scarcely formed in line when the Emperor arrived. After passing in front of the lines the Emperor placed himself under the balcony of the Military School, and the men recommended for decorations were called forward by Marshal Vaillant, and each received the reward of his services from the hands of the Emperor. The troops then defiled, cheering enthusiastically, "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vive l'Impératrice!" "Vive le Prince Imperial!" The crowd of spectators was immense, and the weather magnificent.

The question of erecting a monument to commemorate the war in the Crimea is, says the *Gazette de France*, again under consideration; and several plans of monuments have been submitted to the Government.

Nine hundred and seventeen men of the 45th of the line have arrived at Marseilles in the *Christophe Colomb* from Algeria.

Two officers of the Sardinian army have arrived in Paris to take charge of military clothing ordered here.

The Marquis de Torcy, a member of the French Corps Legislatif for the Orne, died in Paris on Sunday night. He was a landed proprietor of considerable wealth, and one of the most celebrated cattle-breeders in France.

The death of Baron Roquet, one of the members of the French Legislative Corps for the Gironde, and a son of General Roquet, the Emperor's Aide-de-Camp, is announced.

Five young Persians have arrived in Paris from Teheran—two of them to study medicine, two to be educated in military schools, and the fifth, who is a nephew of Ferouk Khan, to be an out-door pupil of one of the principal colleges.

Ary Scheffer's dispersed pictures are to come together for a grand "congress," under the auspices of the Marquis of Hertford, Fould, Morny, Ingres, and Horace Vernet. On the 27th of April the noble Marquis lends for the display his splendid mansion on the Boulevard des Italiens.

A violent hurricane broke over Marseilles on the night of Thursday week, and caused serious damage. It dispersed the ships which had arrived in the bay from various parts, and prevented them from entering the port. Some sought shelter at Toulon, some at La Ciotat, and others on the coast of Italy, to escape shipwreck. In some places the trees were completely stripped of their leaves, broken, and torn up by the roots. The fruit crop in the neighbourhood of Marseilles, which bore such a promising appearance, is now nearly destroyed.

The officers at the Custom-house at Givet (Ardennes), two days ago, seized fourteen kilogrammes (about 30 lb.) of gunpowder which a well-dressed female had secreted under her crinoline.

PRUSSIA.

A Ministerial decree has been issued for the reorganisation of the Prussian navy. Prince Adalbert of Prussia is appointed Lord High Admiral, and Rear-Admiral Schröder is appointed head of the Admiralty.

The Princess Frederick William has associated herself with other ladies of the highest rank at Berlin to establish an asylum for governesses who may be temporarily out of employment. The experiment has commenced on a small scale. A fund of 2000 thalers being all that was required to make a beginning, the Princess at once contributed 500 thalers.

SWITZERLAND.

The Federal Council was occupied at one of its recent sittings in considering the means to be adopted to meet the expenses which might be caused by its armaments. Two plans were suggested—one a loan from capitalists, and the other a national subscription. The Council decided for the latter.

The English Government has replied to the note of the Swiss Federation, that it has perfect confidence that the attitude and conduct of the Swiss will be in conformity with the treaty obligations, which also protect her inviolability.

THE EUROPEAN CONGRESS.

No definite information is to be obtained respecting the composition and scope of the Congress, or when and where it is to be held. Of conjecture there is abundance—the rumour of one hour contradicting that of the preceding, itself being superseded by the equally vague and short lived report of the next. As these rumours, however, run through the entire gamut of probabilities, indeed almost of possibilities, some one or more of them must needs be true; but which of them time alone will show. The speculations of the Continental journals, many of them assuming to be derived from official sources of information in their several capitals, are as various as the standpoints from which their views are taken. Some of the Continental papers persist in asserting that Austria will not agree to the meeting of the Congress unless Sardinia will consent to disarm. It is positively announced that the representative of Russia will be Prince Gortschakoff. The last rumour has it that Sardinia will not be represented in the Congress. A short time will, it is to be hoped, raise the subject from the region of haphazard conjectures and place it in the domain of sober fact.

UNITED STATES.

The President has determined to call no extra Session of Congress. St. Patrick's-day was celebrated in New York and all over the Union with great enthusiasm. There was a terrible riot among the Irish near Baltimore on St. Patrick's-day, in which weapons of various kinds were freely used, and 100 persons were injured, some of whom have died. The fighting lasted three hours, and was as bloody as some skirmishes that have places in history.

The celebrated Mike Walsh died of apoplexy in a street in New York. As he was a celebrity in the Empire City, the papers give a long memoir of him. His funeral was a public one.

There has been another riot in Auburn Prison. The warder shot three men.

Great floods have occurred in Massachusetts, and done immense damage.

There have been several duels at New Orleans, one of which terminated fatally. Piccolomini was the occasion of them all. Some of the shots in the bloodless duels evinced skill and nerve, balls going through gentlemen's clothes in a manner that must be affecting to tailors.

A despatch from Leavenworth says a severe fight had occurred near Fort Arbuckle between fifty troops and fifty Wichita Indians, under Lieutenant Powell, and a large party of Comanches, in which two Comanches were killed and two soldiers wounded. Another fight occurred between Lieutenant Stanley's command of fifty troops and the Comanches, in which eight of the latter and one of the former were killed. Captain Carr and fifty men had left Fort Wichita for the seat of war. It was stated that the Comanches numbered upwards of 3000. Another battle was anticipated.

CANADA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

TORONTO, March 21.

THE Inspector-General and his tariff have recently engrossed the attention of all parties in Canada. On Thursday both Ministers and the Opposition were anxious for a division: an amendment offered by the member for Hamilton, Mr. Isaac Buchanan, afforded the opportunity, the Ministry claiming a majority of thirteen votes. The heavy duties shortly to be imposed on all imports will not last long, but will gradually be diminished until they stand pretty nearly as at present. By a rough calculation Mr. Galt estimates to add 500,000 dols. to the revenue of the province from his increased schedule. In the course of his masterly speech before the Legislative Assembly the Inspector-General referred in very befitting terms to the real importance of the St. Lawrence route to Europe. He was of opinion that the trade of Canada should be, in so far as possible, concentrated within Canadian territory. Until the present time, by the United States' Bonding Act of 1846, produce could pass free to and from the United States and Canada. Last year, of the total imports into Upper Canada, amounting to about twenty-nine million and a half dollars, more than fifteen millions came from the United States. By the new tariff, however, the substitution of *ad valorem* for specific duties will place the St. Lawrence route on a fairer footing. Former Legislatures were not blind to the capabilities of this great river when they incurred a debt of over £10,000,000 in constructing canals at its various Rapids, in erecting lighthouses, subsidising steam-ship companies, and contracting for important works to benefit the trade. To turn this large expenditure to some practical account has been the chief inducement to Mr. Galt to introduce an *ad valorem* system. The St. Lawrence possesses in our day advantages which were not even suspected ten years back. The vast improvements in shipbuilding to combine speed with carrying power, and the achievements of steam, have fairly proved that the St. Lawrence is considerably the nearest route from Europe, as was verified last summer, when the average passages of the steamers and sailing-vessels from Liverpool to Quebec and vice versa were respectively eleven and twenty-four days. Besides the St. Lawrence itself, upwards of eight hundred miles long from the Gulf to Montreal, we now possess a line of railway communication unsurpassed in any country. Goods arriving by steam-ships from England are at once placed on the rail, and are delivered in Chicago and the Far West in less than three days; and, if railway enterprise develops itself as greatly this year as it did last, Fraser River itself will be brought within three weeks' journey of England.

INDIA.

The intelligence brought by the Bombay mail is of no great interest. Lord Canning's notification of the purpose of Government to borrow money by promissory notes had caused a panic in the market. Sir John Lawrence has returned to England by the packet bringing the present mail. The financial embarrassment of Government is severe. Duty on Malwa opium has been raised from 400 to 500 rupees a chest. Tania Topee has vanished, and his gathering dispersed. There is no news from Nepal. Intelligence has been received from Seronge, Central India, that the rebels, with the Rao Sahib, crossed the Betwa on the night of the 7th ult., and were at Mehidpoor; that the agent of the Rao had come in to arrange for his submission, agreeably to the Royal proclamation. It is also reported that Feroze Shah was not with the rebel force. Major-General Michel was moving on Bhopal. The foundation-stone of the civil church of Lucknow was laid on the 14th of February by Mr. Montgomery, the Chief Commissioner, in the presence of a number of the civilians and their families. The site is near that of the building used at present as the English church. The stone was deposited in due form, and the ceremony was inaugurated and concluded by a form of prayer and a thanksgiving.

A bi-weekly newspaper is about to be started at Lucknow, with the title of the *Lucknow Herald*. There is also a rumour that a new paper is to be established at Delhi.

AUSTRALIA.

Advices have been received from Australia a week in advance of those received by the previous mail, but the intelligence is meagre. The Parliament of Victoria was to be prorogued on the 17th of February. The production of gold was increasing, the amount being 71,000 ounces more than last year. At Sydney both Houses were dissatisfied with the present postal arrangements via Suez. Imports were extremely dull. At Adelaide trade was also dull.

Forty water-fountains for the public streets of Sydney have been cast, and are about to be erected.

The Portuguese Cortes have been prorogued, for the purpose, as we presume, of facilitating the arrangements rendered necessary by the recent change of Ministry in Portugal.

The Emperor of Russia returned to St. Petersburg on the 22nd ult. from Cronstadt, whither he had gone to inspect some works now going on there.

By advices from Kiachta, in the governmental district Irkutsk, on the Chinese frontier, we learn that famine prevails in the southern parts of China.

The *Malta Times* of the 29th ult. states that orders have been received from England, in pursuance of which the order requiring sentries to "carry arms and present arms as the Host passes" has been removed.

On the evening of the 18th ult., in consequence of heavy rains having washed away the embankment of the Great Western Railway in the neighbourhood of Hamilton, Canada West, the train was precipitated into a deep ravine, when seven passengers were killed, and several others injured—eight seriously, some not expected to recover.

The *New Zealand Gazette* makes formal announcement from the Colonial Secretary's Office, by request of the Bishop, that the right rev. prelate has appointed the Rev. George Adam Kissing to be Archdeacon of Waitemata, in the place of C. J. Abraham, B.D., clerk, who has been nominated to the newly-constituted bishopric of Wellington.

Considerable sensation has been caused in Leipzig by the arrest of Dr. Lindner, Professor of Theology at the University. He had been detected in the act of stealing a very valuable bible from the library of that establishment, and on searching his residence a number of manuscripts, maps, prints, &c., coming from the same source, were found.

GERMANY.—A letter in the *Weser Gazette* says that coast batteries are to be established on eight different points, for the protection of the Elbe, the Weser, and the Ems, particularly at Bremerhaven, Brunsbüttel, Pelkum, and Pellum. Each of these batteries will be armed with 68-pounders, and have garrisons of sixty men. Harbour will also probably be fortified. Engineers have already commenced the preliminary operations for these batteries.

CHILI.—The news from Chili states that the revolution is not likely to last long. Copiapo, Talca, Concepcion, and Chillan, the revolted provinces, are under arms, and General Cruz has placed himself at the head of the revolutionists. The situation of the Government is critical. The Minister of War, General Garcia, has taken the command of the army marching upon Talca. Santiago, the capital, is in an excited state. The troops sent against Copiapo have found it expedient to retire to the Fort of Caldera.

ROME.—A correspondent writing from Rome, on the 29th ult., says:—"A grand entertainment has been given here by the Ambassador of France to the Prince of Wales, Queen Christina, the Duke George of Mecklenburg, and all the Roman Princesses, and the English persons of distinction, who were all presented in their turn to the Prince of Wales by the Duchess de Grammont. The conduct, manners, demeanour, and good tact of the Prince gave universal satisfaction. Another correspondent informs us that the Grand Duchess of Russia, well known as a great connoisseur and a liberal patroness of the fine arts, has been visiting several of the studios in that city, and that from one young artist of rising talent (W. Stark, of Torquay) the Grand Duchess purchased a landscape in oils."

JERUSALEM.—Great preparations were being made at Jerusalem when the mail left (March 17) for the reception of his Royal Highness Prince Alfred, who was hourly expected. An address of her Britannic Majesty's Consul, J. Finn, Esq., F.R.A.S., was delivered at the first meeting for the season of the Jerusalem Literary Society. The lecture, the subject of which was "The pleasures, duties, and responsibilities of the citizenship of Franks in the city of the Great King," was listened to with great attention. The reading-room of the Literary Society in the Via Dolorosa was opened to the public on the 1st of March, 1859. It is supplied with British, American, French, German, and Arabic newspapers, and periodicals. It has also a library containing above 1000 volumes. The open evenings are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from seven to nine p.m. Admission to lectures and reading-room free. The lectures are delivered fortnightly, on Tuesday evenings.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The mechanical resources of the Mint having been found inadequate to supply the constant demand for money, an addition to the motive power is being made, and a new steam-engine of forty-horse power is in course of erection to drive the laminating machinery. The united power of the steam-engines employed in the cash department will then be sixty-six horses.

SACRILEGE IN MARYLEBONE CHURCH.—Many of the monuments and tablets in Marylebone Church have been defaced by some sacrilegious individual, for whose apprehension a reward of £150 has been offered. Besides, in some instances, permanently injuring the monuments, scurrilous remarks have been written with red chalk upon them; and even the prayer-book on the reading-desk has been defaced.

THE NEAPOLITAN EXILES.—The Earl of Shaftesbury received the Neapolitan exiles, on Tuesday evening, at his mansion in Grosvenor-square, in order to introduce them to the members of the committee organised to collect funds for their relief. The exiles, about fifteen in number, arrived together at nine o'clock. They were welcomed by the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury and the gentlemen of the committee. A great number of ladies and gentlemen were present.

A NEW STREET, from King-street, Covent-garden, to Long-acre is about being formed. It will pass through a notorious locality called Rose-street, in a direct line to Cranbourn-street. It will be about fifty feet in width, with a broad foot pavement, and when finished will form a most convenient communication for the passage of vehicles and foot-passengers to and from the West-end to Covent-garden, and the intended Floricultural Bazaar, adjoining Covent-garden Theatre.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Last week the births of 952 boys and 885 girls (in all 1837 children) were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1849-58 the average number was 1087. The returns for last week indicate a favourable state of the public health. In the week that ended March 5 the deaths registered in London were 1215; in the three weeks that followed they averaged about 1160; in the week that ended last Saturday they declined to 1067, of which 603 were deaths of males, and 464 those of females.

A BRILLIANT ORNAMENT.—On Wednesday a magnificent State ornament, composed entirely of brilliants of the first water and of remarkable lustre, was submitted to public competition, at the auction-rooms of Messrs. Debenham, Storr, and Sons, King-street, Covent-garden. The jewels were mounted in gold, as a miniature locket and stomacher, and were originally presented by Louis XIV. to a distinguished member of his Court. After a liberal competition, the hammer fell at £1000, and the lot was declared sold.

LONDON-BRIDGE AND CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY.—The Committee of the House of Commons (Mr. Ingham, chairman), which has been engaged during the last fortnight in considering the Charing-cross Bill, on Monday afternoon came to the decision that the preamble had been proved; but the Committee required that clauses be inserted in the bill with reference to the compensation to be paid to the governors of St. Thomas's Hospital. The Committee have been most painstaking in their inquiries into the merits of the case, having personally visited and examined the London-bridge terminus, St. Thomas's Hospital, and the crossing of Wellington-street, the interior of St. Saviour's Church, and the Borough Market.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL.—A dinner, under the presidency of the Earl of Carlisle, took place on Tuesday night, at the London Tavern, in behalf of this institution. In proposing "Prosperity to the Hospital" the chairman said that it was comparatively a new experiment, and had to feel its way and strike its roots gradually; but he had the satisfaction of finding that whereas in 1856 the institution could only accommodate 43 patients, in 1857 it admitted 76, at the end of 1858 it received 91, and at the present moment it afforded assistance, in round numbers, to more than 100 patients. Subscriptions to the amount of about £1700 were collected during the evening, which passed off very agreeably.

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION.—At the meeting held on Monday—Mr. Hyde Clarke, V.P., in the chair—sixteen members were elected, and the Rev. T. Wiltshire, M.A., read a paper on the peculiar formation of the red chalk, which underlies the white chalk, and which is only known in England, where it crops out at Speeton, in Yorkshire, and Hunstant, in Norfolk. Boulders of it are, however, found in that curious bed of drift on Muswell-hill. Professor Tennant, Mr. S. J. Mackie, and Mr. Weatherall took part in the discussion. The latter stated that the red chalk drift was very scanty at Muswell-hill and Finchley, and appeared to have come from Hunstant by the fossils and deeper red colour. The drift is mixed up with granite from Norway gneiss.

THE ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.—The anniversary of the foundation of this institution was celebrated at the London Tavern on Wednesday evening—Lord Stanley in the chair. In the course of his Lordship's earnest address in behalf of the claims of this institution he stated that there were at present 150 pupils receiving their education at the college; that the annual subscriptions, which were yearly on the increase, amounted to £3000; that the endowment fund now stood at £3000; and that the existing debt was £3600, which was more than covered by the value of the property on which it was secured. His Lordship concluded with a high eulogium upon Mr. Probert, the founder of the charity. The subscriptions of the evening amounted to £928 17s. 6d., besides which there were announced two legacies, one of £3000 and another of £50.

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL.—The thirty-eighth anniversary festival of this charity was celebrated on Wednesday, at the London Tavern, under the auspices of Sir John Pakington, First Lord of the Admiralty. The right hon. Baronet proposed "Prosperity to the Seamen's Hospital Society," and dwelt at some length upon the principal features of the institution, which he represented to be truly catholic in its mission. Since the year 1821 the society had relieved no fewer than 73,556 poor and afflicted seamen of all nations, and in the last year it had administered to the wants of 2143 patients. He regretted to say that the funds of the charity had fallen below the outgoings by a sum of from £1800 to £2000 per annum; but he hoped that, when this fact became known, the public would not allow so noble a charity to remain in debt. A subscription amounting to nearly £1200 was announced.

"THE INDIGENT SEMPTRESSES HOME."—Charles Geary, alias the Rev. Charles Geary, attended at the Lambeth Police Office on Wednesday, for further and final examination, on a charge of attempting, by false and fraudulent pretences, to obtain from Mr. Joshua Fitch, a gentleman residing in De Crespigny-terrace, Denmark-hill, a subscription for what he called the "Indigent Semptresses' Home," but which, in reality, is a mere "sham," and got up for the purpose of enabling him to impose on the benevolent. Mr. Elliott, in passing sentence on Geary, said, "His whole proceeding has been that of enormous, scandalous, and gross fraud, calculated to dry up the sources of charity itself; and for this offence he stands committed to the House of Correction for three months' hard labour." The defendant, who was dressed in the most approved clerical style, gave notice of appeal.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON PREACHING IN AN OMNIBUS-YARD.—A gathering of the men connected with the Favourite omnibuses assembled on Sunday evening in a carriage-shed at the dépôt in Upper-street, Islington. The largest building in the yard, specially prepared for the purpose, was crowded to excess by most attentive auditory. During the past four years a religious service has been conducted on every Sunday morning for the benefit of these men, by a clergyman resident in the parish. At eight o'clock on Sunday night the service commenced with a hymn, which was heartily sung; then followed the Litany, read by the honorary chaplain. Another hymn having been sung, the Bishop read the sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel, and then preached for half an hour from the fourteenth verse. The sermon was admirably adapted to the occasion, and was listened to throughout with breathless attention. The men employed on the Favourite were the chief part of the congregation.

COURAGEOUS CONDUCT OF POLICEMEN.—On Saturday morning, about four o'clock, the premises of Mr. Holdforth, of Oakley-street, Lambeth, were on fire. The house was a double one, and at the time of the disaster twenty-three persons were within. Police-Sergeant Thompson, of the L division, and Constable Barrett, of the same division, on reaching the building found that eight children were prevented from making their escape, owing to the heated smoke rushing up the staircase. A man came at the same time to one of the front windows, calling out loudly for help, and then jumped to the ground, by which his leg was badly injured. Thompson entered by a side door, rushed up the staircase, laid hold of two children—one under each arm—but the smoke was so dense that he could not proceed down the stairs, and he jumped from the first landing to the bottom; and, having handed the children to Barrett, returned and rescued in the same manner two more. After that, with the assistance of Constable Barrett, the other four were taken out in safety.

GENERAL PRESS FUND.—On Saturday last the first annual meeting of the members of this society, established for the relief of distressed gentlemen connected with the public press, and their widows and families, when in necessitous circumstances, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street—Mr. Hyde Clarke in the chair. The report stated, that although the society had been only nine months in existence, and commenced its organisation at a most unfavourable season—the close of the last Parliamentary Session—it now numbered 105 members. This report having been adopted, and the rules of the society so far enlarged as to permit the relief of distressed members of the press, not actual subscribers to the fund—an alteration adopted on the advice of Lord St. Leonards, the president of the society—the chairman drew the attention of the meeting to the subscription at present on foot for the relief of the family of the late Mr. William Weir; and it was unanimously resolved, as Mr. Weir had, during the short period he and the society had been co-existent, shown the warmest interest in its success, and afforded the strongest encouragement to its promoters, that the sum of £10 10s. should be contributed from the Benevolent Fund to the Weir Tribute.

ALL SAINTS' NATIONAL SCHOOLS, ST. PANCRAS.—On Wednesday a bazaar and fancy sale took place at the Music Hall, Store-street, Bedford-square, in aid of the funds of the National Schools of All Saints', Gordon-square, St. Pancras. It appears that some new schools have been erected in the district, in connexion with the District Church of All Saints', and with a view to aid in the liquidation of the debt of a number of the lady members of the congregation undertook the management of a bazaar and fancy sale. During the day the music-hall was crowded by a very fashionable auditory, and, from the amount of business done at most of the stalls, there is reason for hoping that the result of the sale will be a considerable accession to the funds of the schools.

INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF LICENSED VICTUALLERS.—A quarterly court of this society was held on Thursday last for the purpose of electing new trustees, committeemen, and auditors, and on the general business of the court. Mr. Smythe, the governor, presided; Mr. Smalley, the secretary, read the accounts, which presented a highly favourable view of the beneficial result to the society from the profits of the *Morning Advertiser*. The number of the aged and decayed members receiving weekly allowances from the society were about the same as at the last quarterly return. The accounts having been signed by the governor, the court proceeded to the election, when three new trustees, eight committeemen, and three auditors were elected, and the proceedings terminated.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—On Thursday a meeting of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held at its house in the Adelphi, when rewards amounting to £83 were voted to the crews of its life-boats at Appledore, Preston, Thorpe, Holyhead, Arklow, Portmadoc, Penmon, and Aldborough, for saving a large number of lives from various wrecks on the coasts during the past month; and also for putting off to vessels in reply to signals of distress. The silver medal of the institution was presented to D. Shad, coxswain of the Padstow life-boat, in testimony of his very gallant exertions in aiding to save twelve men from the wrecks of the *Gonsalve*, of Nantes, and the *Frederick William*, of Newport. The thanks of the institution were also voted to T. B. Chanter, Esq., of Bideford, and Captain Willoughby, R.N., of Rottingdean, for their valuable services to the life-boat cause, and for recent exertions at various wrecks. Many other rewards for laudable services for saving life were afterwards voted.

SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE FINE ARTS.—This association held its third conversazione on Tuesday evening at the Gallery of the French Artists, Pall-mall. There was a very full attendance of members and visitors, owing, no doubt, to the announcement that M. Silvestre, the author of the recently-published work on English art, which has attracted so much attention, would read a paper on the French school of painting. Unfortunately M. Silvestre had received a command to wait upon the Emperor, which prevented his leaving Paris on Monday, as he had intended. However, the evening was passed pleasantly enough. Mr. Hutton gave a poetic recitation, which was received with warm applause; after which, during the interval before the concert, the magnificent collection of pictures by French and Belgian artists, kindly thrown open by the directors of the gallery, afforded great gratification and ample subject for conversation. In the musical entertainment Madame Enderssohn and Mr. J. G. Parry were the principal singers.

AT THE MARLBOROUGH-STREET POLICE COURT on Saturday a decision was given in the question of the right of a man to smash a photographic portrait of his wife, exhibited without his consent. Mr. Bingham said:—"It appeared that the complainant had purchased the business of a photographer, together with the stock, which contained, among other articles, the portrait of defendant's wife, and these portraits were hung up at his door as a sample of his style of art. The defendant requested that they might be removed, but, this request being refused, he obtained his end by destroying the work with a stick. Whether an artist, an alehouse-keeper, or any other person might, after notice of objection, seek to attract customers by hanging up a portrait of his neighbour's wife as a sign, either for its beauty or deformity, was at least very questionable; but, even if the exhibition was a nuisance which the law would compel him to abate, it was clearly unlawful for the defendant to redress his grievance by violence. He must, therefore, pay for the damage done; but, inasmuch as the exhibitor was, under the circumstances, entitled to no sympathy, the amount must be limited by a rigid estimate. The defendant must, therefore, pay one guinea for the damage, and 2s. cost of summons."

BANK OF ENGLAND.—At a meeting of the governor, directors, and proprietors of the Bank of England, on Tuesday, Mr. Bonamy Dobree was elected Governor, and Mr. Alfred Latham, of the firm of Arbuthnot, Latham, and Co., merchants, of St. Helen's-passage, Deputy-Governor, for the ensuing year. On Wednesday the election of directors of the Bank of England for the ensuing year took place in the Bank parlour. A few votes were formally recorded, there being no opposition, and the proceedings came to a standstill. The poll was kept open until six o'clock in the evening, when the following gentlemen were declared the directors for the year:—Henry Hulke Berens, Esq.; Arthur E. Campbell, Esq.; Edward Henry Chapman, Esq.; R. W. Crawford, Esq., M.P.; William Cotton, Esq.; James Pattison Currie, Esq.; Benjamin Buck Greene, Esq.; C. P. Grenfell, Esq., M.P.; Henry Hicks Gibbs, Esq.; George J. Goschen, Esq.; James Alexander Guthrie, Esq.; T. Hankey, Esq., M.P.; John Benjamin Heath, Esq.; K. D. Hodgson, Esq., M.P.; Henry Lancelot Holland, Esq.; John G. Hubbard, Esq.; Thomas Newman Hunt, Esq.; Charles Frederick Huth, Esq.; James Malcolmson, Esq.; James Morris, Esq.; Sheffield Neave, Esq.; George Warde Norman, Esq.; Edward H. Palmer, Esq.; Thomas Charles Smith, Esq.

TESTIMONIALS.—On Monday a meeting of the members of Fitzroy Episcopal Chapel was held to present their late pastor with a testimonial of their affection for his character, and estimation of his unpromising evangelical preaching, as well as his laborious house-to-house visitation. The testimonial consisted of a facsimile of the Bible presented by the Bible Society to her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, and a purse containing 125 guineas.

On Wednesday so'nnight a handsome silver tea service was presented to the Rev. J. Davis, Minister of the Vines Church, Rochester, by the congregation, on the occasion of the rev. gentleman being appointed one of the secretaries of the Evangelical Alliance, as a mark of the high respect and esteem in which he is held in Rochester, and of the faithful manner in which he had discharged his laborious duties.

The Glasgow Faculty of Procurators have presented Mr. Morrison, the Dean of Faculty, with a full-length portrait of himself, painted by M'Nee, as a testimonial of their appreciation of the many good qualities which distinguished the venerable Dean throughout his long legal career. The presentation took place in the Faculty Hall, in presence of a large number of the procurators.

A handsome silver salver was last week presented to the Rev. William Brassey Hole, M.A., by the parishioners of Littleham and Exmouth, Devon, "as a token of their high appreciation of his unwearied zeal for their spiritual welfare" during a period in which he has officiated for the incumbent, the Rev. T. Boies.

The inhabitants of Lymington, Devon, a few days since, testified their "esteem and regard" for Mr. R. C. Price, surgeon, and their "appreciation of the manner in which he discharged his professional duties, extending over a period of twenty-six years," by presenting him with a valuable silver salver and tea and coffee service. The same gentleman had a few weeks previously received a silver inkstand, the gift of upwards of two hundred of the working classes of Lymington and Exton.

A magnificent piece of plate has been presented to Mr. Vandenhoff, by his friends at Liverpool, as "a memento of his long and intimate connection with the Liverpool stage, extending over a period of forty years; and as a tribute of esteem and admiration on the part of the contributors to his genius as an actor, and his character as a man." The Mayor presided.

The members of the South Devon Archery Club, at a meeting held in Exeter last week, presented, through the President, Sir John Duntze, Bart., a handsome silver tea service to the Rev. T. B. Melhuish, "in recognition of his unremitting attention as Archery Secretary since the formation of the club."

At the annual dinner of the members and friends of the Taunton Vale Hunt, on Thursday week, a magnificent testimonial, consisting of the recipient's portrait, and a tastefully fabricated purse containing one hundred guineas, was presented to Mr. James Scarlett, of the Nag's Head, North-street, Taunton, as a testimony of the respect and esteem of the one hundred and seventy fellow-sportsmen who had subscribed the funds.

Colour-Sergeant Thomas Hogan, 1st battalion 19th Regiment, on his retiring from the service, after twenty-three years, serving in all parts of India and the Crimea, was presented on Tuesday with a handsome chased silver goblet, containing a suitable inscription, by Captain Thomas C. Lloyd. The cup, which cost £10 15s., was purchased by subscription by the officers of the dépôt.

Sergeant-Major John Freeman, of the 6th battalion Royal Artillery, has left the regiment, after twenty-eight years' service, on a pension of 2s. 6d. per diem, and an annuity of £10 per annum for meritorious service. Previous to leaving Woolwich, on his appointment as sergeant-major of the Isle of Wight Artillery Militia, Sergeant-Major Freeman was entertained at a dinner given by the non-commissioned officers of the regiment at headquarters, when he was presented with an elegant silver cup containing twenty sovereigns.

The stewards and subscribers to the late Polimore Steeplechase, Devon, have presented Mr. John Wippell, of Brenton Barton, with a silver salver, bearing a suitable inscription, for the liberal manner in which he placed the use of his land at their disposal for the steeplechase. They have likewise presented a gold mounted riding-whip to Mr. Henry Drew, of Peamore, in acknowledgement of his services upon that occasion.

Last Monday evening, at a public tea meeting, in celebration of the opening of the new Wesleyan Schools, Torquay, an elegant gilt French clock, bearing the following inscription, was presented to Mr. John Harvey, Melville-place, the superintendent:—"Presented to Mr. John Harvey, at the opening of the new Wesleyan Schools, Torquay, by the trustees, committee, and friends of the chapel and schools, as a token of gratitude for the many valuable services he has rendered them."

COUNTRY NEWS.

It is announced that the consecration of Dean Wilson as Bishop of Glasgow will take place on Tuesday, the 26th inst., at Edinburgh, not at Glasgow; and that Bishop Trower will preach the consecration sermon at St. Paul's, Edinburgh.

Another poaching case was tried last week at the Taunton Assizes. George Hill was indicted for shooting at George Myle, son of a gamekeeper at Pill, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. He was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

Arrangements for the forthcoming festival of parochial choirs at Southwell, on Thursday, the 28th inst., are now nearly completed. The preachers of the day are to be the Lord Bishop of Western New York, U.S., and the Lord Bishop of Lincoln. The sermon in the afternoon will be preached in the fine old nave of the minster.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF SCOTLAND.—The *Scotsman* says:—"It is gratifying to find that the number of visitors has continued large every day since the opening. On the free days since Saturday week the numbers were:—Saturday, 26th of March, 2380; Tuesday, 29th of March, 480; Wednesday, 30th of March, 1000; Saturday, 2nd of April, 2210; total, 6070."

FALLING IN OF A CHURCH TOWER.—On Sunday morning last the tower of old Basford Church (Notte) fell in, causing damage to the extent of about £2000. The church is a very old one, and was in course of being restored, and was to be opened in May. The damage sustained is principally confined to the new portion of the edifice.

NORWICH MUSICAL FESTIVAL.—On Saturday last a meeting of the committee for conducting the next musical festival at Norwich—which will be held in the usual course in 1890—was convened at the residence of Mr. Kerrison, the hon. secretary. Arrangements were made for the appointment of the working sub-committee, &c., and the gratifying statement was made that the guarantee fund now amounts to £3000.

The Liverpool magistrates have committed Meliton Garai, a Spanish sailor, to take his trial for the wilful murder of William Marshall, a brushmaker, at Liverpool. On Saturday night last one of Garai's friends had been creating a disturbance in a public-house, and was turned out; a row in the street followed, Marshall interfered, and was stabbed by the Spaniard, dying some few hours after being admitted into hospital.

A MONUMENT to the memory of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the 68th Regiment killed in the Crimea is now in course of erection in Durham Cathedral, by Mr. T. Gaffin, of the Quadrant, Regent-street. The monument, which is elaborately carved, is of white Carrara marble, is surmounted with military trophies, and on the plinth is the badge of the regiment, with the names of the battles in which it has fought.

PENNY SAVINGS-BANKS.—It appears from a little pamphlet issued by Mr. Henry Clarke, honorary secretary of the Southampton Penny Bank, that sixty-six penny banks have been formed, or are in course of formation, in various parts of the country. The Southampton establishment was opened on the 4th of October last, and the total number of deposits is 19,738, amounting to £898. The expenses attending its formal tion were £40, which sum was met by public contribution.

INSPECTION OF TROOPS BY THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.—The whole of the troops stationed at Canterbury garrison were inspected on Tuesday by the Duke of Cambridge, Commanding-in-Chief, who arrived by train about eleven o'clock, and proceeded at once to the barracks, where his Royal Highness was received by the Commandant, Colonel Gibson. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Sir George Wetherall, K.C.B., Adjutant-General, and Colonel Foster, Deputy-Adjutant-General.

NORTH KENT RAILWAY.—The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Plumstead station (between Woolwich Arsenal and Abbey Wood station) on this line took place on Thursday week in the presence of a number of the officials of the company and influential residents of the district. A new station, comprising extensive waiting-rooms, &c., is now building at New-cross, on this line, in accordance with a requisition presented to the directors of the South-Eastern Railway Company by a large number of the inhabitants of Deptford and its vicinity.

NEW CORN EXCHANGE FOR LEEDS.—A special meeting of the Leeds Town Council was held last week for the purpose of considering, among other business, the best site for a new exchange for the Corn Market of Leeds. Two projects only were entertained, one being for an extension of the present Brigste site, and the other for erecting the exchange in Call-lane. The Council determined by a majority of eleven to expend a sum not exceeding £12,000 in the purchase of the Call-lane site, the resolution being carried by twenty-seven to sixteen.

CRUELTY ON BOARD THE "BOGOTA."—At the Liverpool Assizes, on Friday, the 1st instant, Mitchell, the second engineer of the *Bogota* steamer, was tried for the murder of Landor, a fireman of that vessel. The deceased had, as will be recollected, been tied by the prisoner to a ladder in the stokehole, opposite the furnace, and the heat produced such an effect upon him as to render him insensible, from which state he never recovered. Buchanan, the chief engineer, who ordered Mitchell to tie the deceased in that position, has fled from justice. The prisoner was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude.

THE IRISH SECRET SOCIETIES' TRIALS.—At Tralee, on Friday, the 1st inst., Daniel Sullivan was found guilty, and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. The Government prosecutions at Belfast against the fifteen men charged with being members of an illegal society failed the first time, as did that at Tralee. On Saturday morning last the jury, who had been locked up the preceding night, being unable to agree, were discharged. Another jury was discharged on Thursday, as there was not any probability of their agreeing. All the prisoners are to stand out till next Assizes on renewing their bail.

UPSETTING OF WILD BEAST CARAVANS.—A very alarming and fatal accident occurred on Friday evening, the 1st inst., at Holywell, in Flintshire. Wombwell's menagerie was being exhibited there, when of a sudden a violent gust of wind upset four of the great caravans, bringing down with them the canvas covering. As there was a considerable crowd a terrible scene ensued, for the vans fell upon a number of persons, and all the lights were extinguished. In the confusion the people believed that some of the beasts had escaped. When an examination could be made it was found that four persons, including a keeper, were crushed to death, and at least twelve others were injured.

AT THE KINGSTON ASSIZES, on Saturday and Monday last, a case of some importance, as relating to the frequent casualties which have occurred of late in crowded public buildings, was tried. The defendants were the directors of the Polytechnic Institution, and the plaintiff was one of the sufferers by the falling of a staircase in that building, which happened, with fatal consequences, on the 3rd of January last. The jury found that sufficient skill and caution had not been exercised by the persons employed by the defendants to repair the staircase before the accident, and gave the plaintiff £10 damages; but some legal points were reserved for the consideration of the Court above.

ALDERSHOTT CAMP.—The field-days at Aldershot commence at the beginning of next month. The commanding officers of all the regiments are setting up their corps again, after the comparative inaction of winter, by close attention to squad and company drill. During the whole of each day the camp-ground is covered with regiments, broken up into companies and detachments, each incessantly going through every possible combination of drill of which such small bodies are capable. The total number of all arms now included in the Aldershot Division is rather over 15,000 men, but from this force 650 must be taken for the 15th Hussars, who are stationed at Hounslow, and about 220 for the No. 5 Field Battery at present at Northampton. In order that the experience of the regiments under canvas may be redeemed as far as possible from an affair of routine, Government has taken a large space of ground near Woolmer Forest, about twelve miles from the camp, in the direction of Winchester. It is intended that each brigade in turn should march out to this spot for a sojourn of a few days, taking with them their tents, stores, baggage, guns, and material of every kind, so as to initiate the troops more fully than by the present method into a knowledge of the duties and trials of military life.

TELEGRAPH WIRES IN INDIA.—Not only do rebels cut the wires but wild beasts repair to the posts under the impression that they are provided with the benevolent thoughtfulness which secured for the Duke of Argyll the blessing of his grateful countrymen, and when elephants ally cutaneous irritation by a good rub against a pole it generally comes to grief. Then, again, monkeys, under a complete misapprehension of the objects of the telegraphic system, delight to use the wires for athletic sports and raptures. I have seen half a dozen great monkeys or baboons at work on one feeble stretch of wire, posturing, grinning, and chattering away in the highest spirits—some walking tippy-turvy along it, others tugging it up and down with main force, considerably increased by the circumstance that other monkeys were hanging on by their tails, and others striving to detach the wire from the posts, so as to give their friends a sudden fall; white ants eat the base of the posts away; sudden gusts of wind blow miles of wire and posts flat to the earth—in a word, there are special disturbing influences at work in India from which European telegraphs are exempt; and, in addition to these physical causes of interruption, there are the moral impediments presented by the nature of the materials with which the superintendent has to work. It is very hard to be smart, active, wide-awake, and intelligent when the thermometer is over ninety degrees, and, when it reaches one hundred and twenty degrees in some miserable bungalow, it is no wonder if the frizzling European or collapsed Eurasian, who is trying to prevent combustion by pouring tatties of water over his head, is indifferent to a despatch from the Secretary of Government to the Commander-in-Chief, and obstinately refuses to forward the twenty-fifth "de'at" of Tania Topee and dispersal of his followers.—*Mr. Russell's Letter to the Times.*

THE CAMEL CORPS IN INDIA.

THE Camel Corps, now commanded by Captain Payne Barras, late the Poonah Horse, was raised last year in Rajpootana by Captain Lucas. It numbers about 600, and is distributed, in bodies of about 200, with the different columns in pursuit of Tantia Topee. The portion with General Michel's force has been carrying a detachment of 150 of the 92nd Highlanders for the last two months. The advantages of the corps are the great distances infantry can be taken in pursuit of the enemy, and brought comparatively fresh into action, at the same time bearing their rations, &c., &c., for five or six days. When tents and camp equipage are left behind for several days, as often happens in a long pursuit, the thick rugs of which the camel's saddle is composed form an excellent bed and covering for the soldier. The corps has also been exceedingly useful in conveying despatches and gaining intelligence of the enemy's movements.

We are indebted for the accompanying Sketch of one of the camels of this corps, with a private of the 92nd Highlanders mounted, to an officer of that regiment with General Michel's force, at Camp Shapoor, Rajpootana.

WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.

THE colony of New Zealand, without having created a *furor* in that part of the world which is always on the watch to seek its fortune by means of emigration, still holds out many inducements to those who are willing to colonise rather more in the old way than has been lately the case in Australia. Each of the group of islands of which the settlement consists may now be said to be competing for selection by emigrants. In our present Number we give an Illustration of the town of Wellington, which is situated on the Island of New Ulster, or North Island, on Cook's Strait, and on the west shore of Port Nicholson.

The town properly so called occupies two flats on the west and south sides of the harbour. The harbour is characterised as magnificent, affording every possible facility for ships of the largest burden. From this advantage, and the fact of its central position on the island, it is at present being sought to make Wellington the seat of Government. A special interest attaches to it on that account just now. The houses are picturesquely situated in tiers around and above the margin of the bay. It possesses Episcopal, Scotch, Wesleyan, and Roman Catholic churches, a mechanics' institute, savings-bank, custom-house, exchange, barracks, gaol, and hospital; a brewery, steam flour and sawing mills, &c. There are also excellent hotels, and two banks. The latest accounts state that the town is rapidly improving. There are now bridges where none existed a few months ago, roads have been straightened and improved, sections fenced in, &c. Buildings are springing up fast at the business end of the town, on the Te Aro Flat. Of the flat we give an Illustration. The district in which Wellington stands contains much rich land, of which about 15,000 acres have been cleared and put into cultivation. The population of the district exceeds 8000, and is daily increasing. The climate, though the province is subjected to the influence of strong winds, is very healthy, and is not characterised by any extremes of heat or cold.

MEMORIAL CHURCH AT PENTRE VOELAS, DENBIGHSHIRE.

THIS church, which was reopened a short time ago, was built from the designs of Mr. G. G. Scott, of London, at the sole expense of C. W. G. Wynne, Esq., of Voelas, in memory of his second son, Major Wynne, 64th Light Infantry, who fell at the battle of Inkerman. The architect has maintained the features of the old country parish churches of North Wales, trusting for effect to symmetry of proportions and excellence of materials and work, rather than to richness of decoration. The windows are simple lancets, the base sloped outside; and the buttresses are plain slopes, rising to a string-course. The belfry may be considered unique as regards modern churches, having a corbelled projection, in which Mr. Scott had the good taste to preserve the character of a class of belfries common in the old churches of that country. The south chapel incloses the burial-vaults of the Voelas family, and contains a beautiful monu-



MEMORIAL CHURCH AT PENTRE VOELAS, DENBIGHSHIRE.



ONE OF BARRAS' "CAMEL CORPS," RAISED IN RAJPOOTANA.

ment by Westmacott. The east window, a fine specimen of art, by Mr. F. W. Oliphant, is a triplet composed of two lancets, with a higher central light, having a trefoiled head. It is the gift of Mrs. Wynne, in memory of her gallant son above named. It represents St. Peter, preaching to Cornelius, the centurion, at the cross; and the centurion beseeching the Saviour on behalf of his sick servant. Above all is a trefoiled aperture of stained glass, each compartment containing a crown surrounded by a laurel wreath.

THE GORILLA.

NOT long ago the visitors to the Crystal Palace were presented with a novelty, in the collection of objects connected with natural history, in the shape of a new specimen of the quadrumanous animal, called the gorilla. This animal belongs to the class of Quadrumana which is called simiadae, or apes, and is the first in order, as well as the largest, of the tribe. It has been found in Western Africa. In size the specimen, which is best known in this country, is five feet six inches high, and measures nearly three feet from shoulder to shoulder, while the body is only two feet four inches, measured from the hip-joint. The outline of the gorilla's face is most brutal in character, and entirely destroys the slight resemblance to the human countenance which the full form exhibits. The colour of its hair is nearly black; but in some lights, and during the life of the animal, it assumes a tinge of greyish brown, on account of the admixture of hairs of various colours. On the top of the head and the side of the cheeks it assumes a grizzly hue. The length of the hair is not very great, considering the size of the animal, and is not more than two or three inches. On the arms it is arranged in rather a curious manner: the hair from the shoulder to the elbow points downwards, while that from the elbow to the finger points upwards; so that the two sets of hairs meet at the elbow, and make a pendent tuft. The colour of the eye is dark brown, flaring with a baleful emerald light when the fierce passions of the animal are roused. Very little is known at present of the habits of the gorilla. It is, no doubt, the creature of which Mr. Bowdich, the African traveller, speaks under the name of the ingheena, of the gigantic strength and general appearance of which many tales have been told. The natives of Western Africa have traditions of these huge creatures (they are spoken of as six or seven feet high) walking constantly on their hind feet, and never being taken alive; and of their watching the actions of men and imitating them as nearly as possible. Like the ivory-hunters, they are said to pick up the fallen tusks of elephants; but, not knowing where to deposit them, they carry their burdens until they themselves drop, and even die, from fatigue. They are said to build huts nearly in the shape of those of men, but live on the outside

of them; and when one of their children dies the mother carries it in her arms until it falls to pieces. It is also said that one blow of the paw will kill a man, and that nothing can exceed their ferocity. At present we have but a slight acquaintance with the mode of life of the gorilla in its wild state, or with regard to what is its food. It is found only in the thickest jungles of Western Africa, far from man and his habitations, and is so wary, active, and fierce that a close inspection is almost an impossibility, especially as the moment it sees a man it attacks him. The strength of the adult male being prodigious, and the teeth heavy and powerful, it is said to watch, concealed in the thick branches of the forest trees, the approach of any of the human species, and, as they pass under the tree, let down its terrible hind foot, furnished with an enormous thumb, grasp its victim round the throat, lift him from the earth, and, finally, drop him on the ground dead. Sheer malignity prompts the animal to this course, for it does not eat the dead man's flesh, but finds a fiendish gratification in the mere act of killing. Such a thing as the capture of an adult male gorilla has never been attempted, much less achieved, by the human inhabitants of the same land; although, once or twice, young ones have been captured, which for some reason, have always died in a short time. For a fuller account of this extraordinary specimen of zoology, of which, we give an Illustration, we refer our readers to a new publication by Messrs. Routledge, entitled "Illustrated Natural History," by the Rev. J. G. Wood, and which is brought out in shilling monthly parts, with designs by Wolf, Harvey, Weir, and Coleman. As a contribution to cheap literature the work is every way worthy of consideration and success.

Professor Owen, in a lecture on the gorilla recently delivered at the Royal Institution, mentioned several points in the habits of the animal, as well as in its osteology, to show its nearer approach to man than any other animals of the tribe.

HINDOO SCHOOL, POONAH.

THE city of Poonah is an important adjunct to the Presidency of Bombay. It is situated in the district of the same name, east-south-east of Bombay, at the junction of two affluent of the Beemah River, and in its appearance is on the whole rather more European than Indian cities generally. Its main street is wide, and lined with buildings ornamented with paintings and mythological carvings. It has numerous pagodas, a Hindoo college, a British church, public library, civil hospital, arsenal, and barracks for two regiments of infantry and one of cavalry. The European cantonments are on the east, separated from the city by a line of bazaars; and on the south-



THE GORILLA.

west is the ruined Palace of the Peishwa, or head, of the Mahratta confederacy, whose capital was Poonah. This station is famed for its salubrity, and is much resorted to by Europeans from Bombay during the rainy season. It is an important military post, and has some manufactories of silk and paper, and well-supplied markets. Around it are numerous hill forts on isolated peaks, and good roads connect it with Bombay, Ahmednuggur, Sattarah, &c.

Our Illustration represents a characteristic scene in this city—namely, a Hindoo School, held, not in a formal room, with desks and benches, but in the airy portico of a large house, and with all the appearance of Oriental ease.



HINDOO SCHOOL UNDER THE PORTICO OF A HOUSE IN POONAH.—SEE PAGE 348.

social strata it may happen to lie, let it consider that he who has once been a Cabinet Minister ought never afterwards to be allowed to come to penury for want of a pension, or to struggle in a trade or profession for his daily bread.

It is with no desire to exaggerate the importance of the maritime limb of our greatness, but to invite attention to it as a part of the national health and strength, that we refer to the recent Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the propriety of constructing Harbours of Refuge.

Our losses at sea continue to be very great. According to a return of the shipwrecks and casualties on and near our coasts in 1858, made by the Board of Trade, 869 vessels were wrecked and stranded in that year, being three more than in 1857, and thirty-two more than in 1856. By wrecks and casualties together, 1170 vessels, of 205,243 tons, and manned by 8979 seamen, were damaged or destroyed in 1858 off our coasts; 1895 lives were imperilled, and 340 actually lost. On the average of the last four years, one seventeenth portion of our merchant vessels in number, being one twentieth of our total tonnage, and carrying one eighteenth of our seamen, with a proportionate quantity of our goods, are annually disabled. In 1854 alone 1549 persons perished on our coasts; and a Committee of the House of Commons, in 1858, put down the average annual loss at 780 lives—happily reduced in the last year to 340. With these lives perished much property; and it is estimated that the annual loss by wrecks on our coast is not less than £1,500,000. To prevent, if we can, such catastrophes is due alike to humanity and our pockets. An annual loss of so many seamen in the vigour of existence lessens the national power, while the property is lost not to the underwriters, who get paid for losses by increased premiums; not to the nominal owners, for they recover it in an increase of price paid by the consumers; but to the whole community; for the public must in the long run pay all the cost of what they habitually desire and use, including all losses, and thus we have a common interest, quite in accordance with our moral feelings, in avoiding the destruction of life and property by shipwreck, by fire, or by any other calamity.

It seems natural, too, that what is for the common and general advantage should be done by the common or public funds, and hence Committees of Parliament, and Commissioners appointed at their recommendation, have warmly advocated the construction of harbours of refuge by the public money as a means of preventing shipwreck. They point with alacrity to the great number of vessels—200, 150, and 110—"which have taken refuge at one time within the last few weeks in the harbours of Holyhead, Kingstown, and Portland;" and they infer that ten more such harbours, constructed at Wick, Peterhead, Carlingford, Waterford, Douglas (Isle of Man), St. Ives, Padstow, in the Tyne, at Hartlepool, and Fife would afford similar shelter to numerous vessels in times of danger, and save life and property. They accordingly recommend that harbours be constructed at these several places, at a total cost of £3,990,000, of which the State is to supply £2,365,000, and £1,625,000 is to be raised in the localities: all the works to be completed within ten years." It seems ungenerous to express a doubt of a "good work commended to her Majesty's most gracious protection in the firm conviction that, if fairly carried out, it will prove not the least noble of the many acts of benevolence which will illustrate her Majesty's reign;" but our sense of what is due to the public, and what may ensure the well-being of our seamen, compels us to form a less favourable opinion of this undertaking than the Commissioners who recommend it.

Though to save life and property be a common benefit, it no more follows that this work should be undertaken by the State than that the State should grow food, manufacture clothing, and supply all the markets with all that is required for subsistence and comfort. Without food, clothing, and shelter we cannot live; but we have been taught by much experience that these are all far better provided by individual exertion, which, though prompted by self-interest, results in the common good, than by the State. A very strong case at least should be made out before shipowners and seamen be treated exceptionally. Why cannot they take care of their own lives and property intrusted to their care, like other individuals? Harbours of refuge for them, like corn laws for landowners, are guarantees against losses from natural causes—such as storms and bad seasons—at the expense of others, and have the evil consequence of making landowners and seamen equally neglect to provide for their own welfare. The practice of interested parties making out a plausible case for public grants is too common for us to feel any surprise at the numerous advantages ascribed by many witnesses to constructing harbours of refuge; but experience scarcely confirms their anticipations. Ramsgate and Dover have cost such large sums to purchase very inadequate advantages that we cannot hastily give our concurrence to an expenditure which is certain to be greater than the estimate, while the benefits are problematical. Upon this point, however, we shall have more to say hereafter.

DECIMAL COINAGE.—The commission appointed to inquire into the proposed system of decimal coinage is still sitting. A report, however, of their proceedings up to the present time has been prepared and is published. From this we find that there are now before the commission a series of resolutions drawn up by Lord Overstone condemnatory of the system of decimal coinage altogether. He considers that the number 12 presents greater advantages than 10, and that a coinage founded on the first number is more convenient for the purposes of the shop and market. By a further application of the system in use in the National Debt Office, of converting, namely, money into a decimal number, and reconverting it into pounds, shillings, and pence, after the calculations are complete, he considers that many of the advantages spoken of by the promoters of decimal coinage may be obtained without the inconvenience of a change. These resolutions are now under discussion, and a report will shortly be prepared by Lord Montagu, the president of the commission.

SLAVERY DECLARED TO BE OF DIVINE ORIGIN.—The New York papers report a meeting of democratic Republican electors in Tammany Hall, at which senator A. G. Brown, of Mississippi, in pronouncing for the acquisition of Cuba, remarked, "I want Cuba for the extension of slavery, and let all the dirty abolition crew understand it. If Cuba were to come to us as a free territory, and a free territory alone, then my courage would very much ooze out at the points of my fingers." The same speaker delivered himself of even a bolder avowal. He said, "I am a pro-slavery man. I believe that slavery is of Divine origin; that God decreed it from the foundation of the world; that the African race from their creation were doomed to be slaves to the white man; and my impression is that every one of you would be better off if he had a negro to wait upon him." And here, says the report, "three cheers for Brown were given with great energy."

THE COURT.

The political "situation" of the past week has, happily, not in any way interfered with the announced arrangements of the Court. Her Majesty's Levee on Wednesday was more numerous than ever, and upwards of four hundred gentlemen had the honour of being presented to the Queen; while the juvenile fancy-dress ball on the following day was remarkable for the brilliancy and number of the guests.

On Saturday last the Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princesses Alice and Helena, visited the British Museum. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, the guests at which included the Princess Alice, the Duke of Cambridge, the Bavarian Minister and Baroness de Cetto, the Brazilian Minister and Madame de Moreira, the Marquis of Exeter, the Earl and Countess of Rosebery, Lord and Lady Lovaine, Lord and Lady Cremorne, and the Right Hon. W. E. and Mrs. Gladstone.

On Sunday the Queen, the Prince Consort, the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel at Buckingham Palace. The Rev. A. P. Stanley, D.D., preached the sermon.

On Monday the Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princesses Alice and Helena, took a drive in an open carriage and four. Colonel the Hon. A. N. Hood and Captain Du Plat attended on horseback. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured the performances at the Adelphi Theatre with their presence.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace, at which Sir John Young was presented to her Majesty upon his return from Corfu. The Hon. Henry G. Elliot, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Denmark, was also honoured with an audience upon his return from abroad. The Queen and Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princesses Alice and Helena, took a drive in an open carriage and four in the afternoon. Captain the Hon. A. N. Hood and Captain Du Plat attended on horseback.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Levee at St. James's Palace. After the levee the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Augustus of Saxe-Coburg, Princess Alice, and Prince Arthur, drove out in an open carriage and four. The Prince and Princess Augustus of Saxe-Coburg, accompanied by their family, Prince Philip, Prince Augustus, Princess Maria Adelaide, and Princess Maria Louisa of Saxe-Coburg, arrived on a visit to her Majesty. The Royal dinner-party in the evening included the Princess Alice and the Prince and Princess Augustus of Saxe-Coburg, Prince Dholam Mahomed, Prince Feroze Shah, and Prince Feroke Backt, the Duchess of Inverness, Viscount Eversley, Lady Peel, the Right Hon. Sir Edward B. Lytton, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Francis Stonor, Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Yorke, Sir George Russell Clerk, and M. de Nostetz.

On Thursday the Queen gave a juvenile fancy-dress ball at Buckingham Palace in celebration of the birthday of Prince Leopold.

The Queen will hold her first Drawingroom on Thursday next. Lady Churchill has succeeded Lady Macdonald as the Lady in Waiting to the Queen. Lord Bateman and Lieutenant-Colonel Cavendish have succeeded Viscount Strathallan and Major-General Berkeley Drummond as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty. Colonel the Hon. A. N. Hood and Captain Du Plat have relieved Major-General the Hon. C. Grey and Colonel the Hon. A. Hardinge in their duties as Equerries in Waiting to the Queen and Prince Consort.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held a Levee on Wednesday at St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort arrived from Buckingham Palace soon after two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of the Royal Horse Guards, and were received by the great officers of State.

His Highness Prince Gholam Mahomed, son of Tippoo Sultaun, his Highness Prince Feroze Shah, grandson of Tippoo Sultaun, and Prince Feroke Backt, great-grandson of Tippoo Sultaun, were presented to the Queen at an audience by Lord Stanley, Secretary of State for India.

The Earl of Derby had also an audience of her Majesty.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge was present at the Levee. The Queen and Prince Consort entered the throne-room, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, and attended by the Duchess of Manchester, Mistress of the Robes; Lady Churchill, Lady in Waiting; Earl Delawarr, Lord Chamberlain; the Marquis of Exeter, Lord Steward; the Duke of Beaufort, Master of the Horse; Lord Claude Hamilton, Treasurer of the Household; Viscount Newport, Vice-Chamberlain; and the other Lords and Ladies of the Household.

The Queen wore a train, maize and white glacé ground, lamée argent, and brocaded with bouquets of green leaves and red and gold berries, trimmed with silver blonde. The petticoat of white satin, trimmed with bouillon, tulle, and silver blonde. Her Majesty wore as a headress a circlet of diamonds.

The diplomatic circle having been introduced, several presentations to the Queen took place.

The general circle was most numerously attended.

Several deputations were admitted to present addresses to the Queen: among the most interesting was one headed by the Mayor of Lancaster, to return thanks to her Majesty for the foundation of three scholarships and an exhibition at the Royal Grammar School of Lancaster.

The presentations in the general circle, of which there were no less than 420, consisted chiefly of military officers on their return from India.

His Royal Highness the Duke de Nemours visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, on Monday, at Clarence House, St. James's.

His Highness Prince Gholam Mahomed, son of the Sultan Tippoo Saib, has arrived at the Oriental Hotel, Vere-street, from Calcutta, to renew his protestations of loyalty after the proclamation of her Majesty to the native Princes of India.

Viscount and Viscountess Villiers have gone to the south of France. The noble Viscount and Viscountess have been induced by the impaired health of his Lordship to repair to a milder climate.

A marriage is arranged, and will shortly take place, between Comte Reventlow Criminil and Miss I. Wemyss, only daughter of Lady Isabella Wemyss.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE MARQUIS OF WATERFORD.

THE accidental death of this lamented nobleman has caused a general feeling of sorrow. Few men of his class have rendered themselves so popular. The occurrence of the accident has been a topic of absorbing interest and concern in the counties of Waterford and Tipperary.

His frank, manly, and kind bearing endeared him to his neighbours and friends, while the great extent of labour he employed in the improvement of his estates and demesne made him the poor man's best friend. His decease is looked on by all his dependents as a severe and irreparable loss. It is singular that the Marquis, who had oft and ridden so much and so fast after hounds, should have met his death where there was apparently no danger. He was killed on Tuesday, the 29th ult., when hunting in the county of Kilkenny. He was at the time passing over a small stone gap on to an unused road when his horse stumbled and threw the rider on the crown of his head. Death was almost instantaneous, the after-symptoms showing that the spinal marrow of the neck must have been ruptured. His remains were brought on a cart to the Earl of Bessborough's seat, and, being there transferred to a carriage, were removed to Curraghmore, the Marquis's own seat, in the county of Waterford, where his widowed consort and a sad crowd of tenantry and friends awaited their arrival. The deceased, the Most Noble Henry de la Poer Beresford, Marquis of Waterford, Earl of and Viscount Tyrone, Baron Beresford, of Beresford, in the county of Cavan, and Baron de la Poer, of Curraghmore, in the county of Waterford, in the peerage of Ireland, and an Irish Baronet; Baron Tyrone, of Haverrfordwest, in the county of Pembroke, in the peerage of Great Britain; and a Knight of St. Patrick, was born in Mansfield-street, London, on the 26th of April, 1811, and was educated at Eton, and Christ Church, Oxford. In his early days he obtained notoriety for the eccentricity and extravagance of his youthful freaks; but all these he gave up when he retired to the country, and assumed there a dignified position. He was the eldest son of Henry, the second Marquis, by his wife, the Lady Susannah Carpenter, only daughter and heiress of George, second Earl of Tyrconnel. He inherited the marquessate of Waterford, and the other family honours, on his father's demise, on the 7th of January, 1827. He married, on the 8th of June, 1842, Louisa, second daughter and coheir of the late Lord Stuart de Rothesay, but has had no issue. He is, accordingly, succeeded by his only surviving brother, the Rev. Lord John Beresford, Rural Dean and Incumbent of Mullaghbrack, in the diocese of Armagh, now the fourth Marquis of Waterford, who was born in 1814, and married, in 1843, Christiana, third daughter of the late Colonel C. P. Leslie, M.P., of Glaslough, in the county of Monaghan, by whom he has issue four sons, the eldest of whom, John Henry de la Poer, is now Earl of Tyrone. The Marquises of Waterford are the chiefs and representatives of that branch of the old house of Beresford which, tempore James I., settled in Ireland, and was raised to the baronetage in 1666, and to the peerage in 1720—Sir Tristram Beresford being the first Baronet, and Sir Marcus Beresford the first Baron Beresford and the first Viscount and Earl of Tyrone. George de la Poer, the second Earl—the grandfather of the peer just dead and of the present peer—was created Marquis of Waterford in 1789. The Marquises of Waterford are Barons de la Poer as heirs and representatives of the very ancient house of Le Poer, which came with Strongbow into Ireland.



NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Not even the Dissolution itself, and all the changes and chances it may involve, can prevent mankind from exulting in their emancipation from miserable to delightful weather. As Horace says—

Informes hyemes reducit
Jupiter idem
Summovet—

which is "another way" (as the cookery books have it) of saying that, whereas last week we were all shivering and using almost impatient Anglo-Saxon if our fires were not brilliant, and whereas on one day a hideous storm of snow and sleet converted London into a city of slush, chill, and ill-humour, we are enjoying a series of genial and sunny days, when outside coats and wintry thoughts are discarded, and people talk with a certain degree of levity about "running out of town." However, as at the end of the poem above cited there is a hint about bearing prosperity *sapienter*, we must not exult indecorously, or be too ready to give away paletot and wrapper. The almanacks, by the way, distinctly indicate "showery weather" as that to be expected on these very days of cloudless skies.

But the Dissolution is, after all, the event of the hour. The Ministerial secret was well kept up to within a few hours of the time for revealing it, and on Monday night Lord Derby, after a slashing speech, in curious contrast with the complimentary address of Mr. Disraeli on the same night, stated that, as the Government measure had fallen before a combination of persons who had no principle of union except hostility to the Administration, he should appeal to the country, not on the question of Reform, but on the character and the merits of the Government. It is understood that Parliament will be dissolved about the 16th, and already the newspapers are crowded with addresses from old and new candidates for seats in the sixth Parliament of Queen Victoria. The letters of Mr. Disraeli and of Lord John Russell will be read with interest. The former imitates the tone of Lord Palmerston when his appeal to the country was made, and so triumphantly answered; the latter is lofty, as becomes a Minister expectant, who scorns to impute or to listen to the imputation of motives. Speculation on the probable result of the election is, of course, very rife; but the general impression seems to be that, even with the aid of the boroughs which hope to purchase life by opposing Reform, and with the assistance of all the terrors which the cry of revolution at home and war abroad may succeed in exciting, Lord Derby will not "mend his hand" by the new shuffle of cards. The trade of London is divided between frantic and apathetic dismay, the season, which promised to be so good, being cut up root and branch, and nearly all the money which was to have been spent in town being wanted in the country for purposes more easily conceived than described. The last dissolution took place about the same period of the year, late in March, 1857.

There will be a great rush of new men upon the hustings at the general election. Do people remember, a couple of months ago or so, that one G. H. M. instructed the world, via the *Times*, that folks might eat, but could not dine, under about £5000 a year, and that it was impossible to sit down to a repast without bisque china, flowers, coloured French moss, statuettes, and similar eatables? Who is George Henry Moncy, "of London," who to-day addresses a happy constituency? People say that the Lucullus in question proposes to roast the constitutional turnip on the Westminster farm.

Government has succeeded in procuring a conviction against one of the Phoenix conspirators, one Daniel Sullivan, who, having been tried by a jury that actually entertained a higher regard for the sanctity of an oath than for the obligations of party feeling, gave a verdict on the evidence, as an English jury would do. Consequently, the unlucky patriot received sentence of fourteen years' transportation. The subscription of Archbishop M'Hale to the "fair-trial fund" has, therefore, not been thrown away, a fair trial having been had, whether the result be or be not agreeable to that amiable Prelate, or to Mr. Kenealy, an Irish newspaper proprietor, who, after a shuffling resistance to a cross-examination in a libel case, was compelled to admit that his anti-Victorian sympathies led him to hope that the sepoys would be conquerors in the Indian war, and that her Majesty's troops would be destroyed.

Of the proposed Congress we shall shortly hear more. It appears that Sardinia is not to be admitted as one of the Great Powers, but may be sent for when wanted. Count Cavour is reported to be mortified with the ill success of his mission to Paris, where, notwithstanding a profusion of politeness, he was compelled to understand that the Emperor would be unable at present to help him to carry out the plan for the aggrandisement of his master's dynasty. He believes, however, that the day is only postponed.

We predict a splendid success for Dr. Charles Mackay's new work on America. Let none imagine that the theme is threadbare; for those who are of this opinion know but little of the Transatlantic World, its prodigious energies, and its multiform progress. There, if anywhere, do we find the grand old hyperbole realised—nations born in a day; and, from the specimens of his work which we have seen (including many unpublished chapters on the social politics of the country), we know that Charles Mackay—the poet, the politician, the man of wide reading, and large heart—will prove himself fully equal to the theme. The title of the book is apt, comprehensive, and suggestive, and one which those who have ever tried their hands at a title, and received a publisher's letter of remonstrance, will fully appreciate—"Life and Liberty in America." The double meaning and the alliteration make it perfect. A happy omen!

Her Majesty found time, amid the storm of politics that rages round the Palace, to pay a visit to the chamber where literature is more regally lodged than elsewhere in her dominions, or, so far as we remember, in those of any other Sovereign. M. Panizzi's noble reading-room at the British Museum was honoured by a visit from the Queen a few evenings ago, and her Majesty is now able to appreciate the value of the grateful testimony borne by all students who have the advantage of the entrée (there are, we believe, some twenty thousand names on the book) to the beauty and convenience of the room, and the exceeding comfort provided for those who read there. A "testimonial" in these days is usually a metallic puff, chiefly paid for by the recipient, and therefore we should not like to recommend anything of the kind for M. Panizzi, unless it could be offered in a very different way from that in which such things are got up for theatrical managers, churchwardens, and captains of steam-boats. But there ought to be some recognition by the reading public of what M. Panizzi has done. Possibly the Queen's visit may be preparatory to the announcement of a gracious intention in his favour. Why not make him G.C.B. for his Grand and Comfortable Book-room?

The improved description of shrapnel shell introduced and invented by Captain Boxer, R.A., Superintendent of the Royal Laboratory Department at Woolwich Arsenal, and for which and other inventions that officer received a reward of £5000 from the Government, is to be adopted in the artillery service.

STATUE OF THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

BY GEEFS.

THE column of the Congress now in course of construction at Brussels in honour of the constitutional liberties enjoyed by that little limited monarchy is in every way a remarkable work, and confers renown upon the arts of the country. At the four corners of the base of this column will be placed four appropriate allegorical figures of colossal size, the execution of two of which has been confided to M. Geefs, the Professor of Sculpture of the Royal Academy at Antwerp. The subjects of these two statues are "The Liberty of the Press" and "The Liberty of Instruction." The former is completed, and has been sent to Liège to be cast, and the other is in a state of forwardness.

This statue of the Liberty of the Press is an imposing composition, measuring three metres fifty-nine centimetres in height. The great organ of the intelligence of the age is typified in the form of a female of muscular mould, and with severe and energetic features, wearing a composed and firm expression—all admirably suggestive of force and grandeur, of power and high resolve. And this grandiose character is maintained in every part of the work. The grandeur and severity of the contour, the imposing and daring character of the pose, irresistibly fill the mind of the spectator with the feelings of awe and veneration which the representation of the emblems of public liberty ought to inspire. Even in the draperies there is nothing small or frivolous; every fold is broad, bold, massive, indicating at once free-will and the power to execute it. The left arm of this colossal figure rests upon a printing-press, whilst the hand holds a wreath of flowers, signifying that everything flourishes under the auspices of Liberty. The right hand rests upon the knee, grasping the fragments of a broken chain, the other portions of which are trampled under foot by the goddess. Her head is crowned with laurels, beneath which is the fillet usually attributed to Divine personages, in the middle of which is the star of immortality. Altogether this is a very stately, complete, and intelligent production.

PRIZE DESIGN FOR A CIRCUS.

THE Soane Medallion, as its name denotes, was founded by Sir John Soane. The competition is open to any architect of the United Kingdom up to the age of thirty; and the successful candidate, besides the silver medallion, is entitled to £50 at the end of one year's absence, provided he commences his travels within three years after receiving the prize.

This year the design was to be a circus for equestrian performances, the arena to be sixty feet in diameter; stabling for forty horses; green-room and dressing-rooms for performers; and saloon, refreshment-rooms, &c., for the audience. The medallion was awarded to Mr. Thomas Vaughan, of Stoke Newington. The same gentleman obtained three medals at the Royal Academy on the 10th of December, 1857—a success never surpassed, and but once equalled, since the Royal Academy was founded, in 1768.

At the general meeting, held on Monday—the Right Hon. Earl De Grey, president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, in the chair—the medallion was presented to Mr. Vaughan. His Lordship said he regretted that he had been unable personally to examine the drawings, as he had been given to understand that they displayed very considerable architectural merit. The subject must have been well studied; and the design contained so many valuable suggestions that he hoped if ever a large building of the sort were required Mr. Vaughan might be intrusted with its erection.

In this design the plan is circular, with projecting centre and wings, in which are the three large public entrances, corresponding with the three different prices of seats. The central one belongs to the first-class seats, which will accommodate 1017; the second class contains 1220; and the third, 1117; but the promenade gallery, 560 feet long and 16 feet wide, attached to the latter, and encircling



STATUE OF "THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS."—BY GEEFS.

the theatre, would contain some hundreds more, so that 4000 persons might be admitted without inconvenience. The rear half of the building is for the performers; and, on the ground floor, a central lobby communicates at the sides with the green-room, appointments-room, dressing-rooms, &c., in front with the arena, and at back with the stable department. In the front, or public portion, are the saloon and refreshment-rooms, cloak-rooms, offices, &c., all upon the same level. At the back of the principal building is the required stabling for forty horses, with harness-rooms and chariot-house on the ground story, and forage-lofts and rooms for the grooms above. The system employed to carry the roof is a double wall, or rather two walls, sixteen feet apart, and arched above the promenade gallery, so that the piers of the inner circle sustain the greater portion of the verticle pressure, while the outer or main wall of the building forms the principal resistance to the horizontal thrust. The roof is constructed of iron girders, formed on three different principles. The upper end is formed of wrought-iron plate girders, the centre wrought-iron lattice ditto, and the foot of cast iron. These are tied together, both above and below the skylight, with wrought-iron bands, while at bottom, upon the arch, the tendency to move under the pressure of the horizontal thrust is counteracted by bands of wrought iron passing all round the building, and bolted to every girder.

THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

THE sixth annual exhibition of paintings by French artists, just opened at the Gallery, 120, Pall-mall, is calculated to sustain the reputation and exemplify the characteristics of the school. It is not, perhaps, quite so rich in very striking works as the collections displayed on some previous occasions; but this may be partly accounted for by the demands of the approaching grand exposition at Paris, which must almost engross the attention and energies of the leading men of the day. Nevertheless, the managers have succeeded in bringing together a collection of no ordinary merit and interest, occasional specimens in which are individually of the very highest merit.

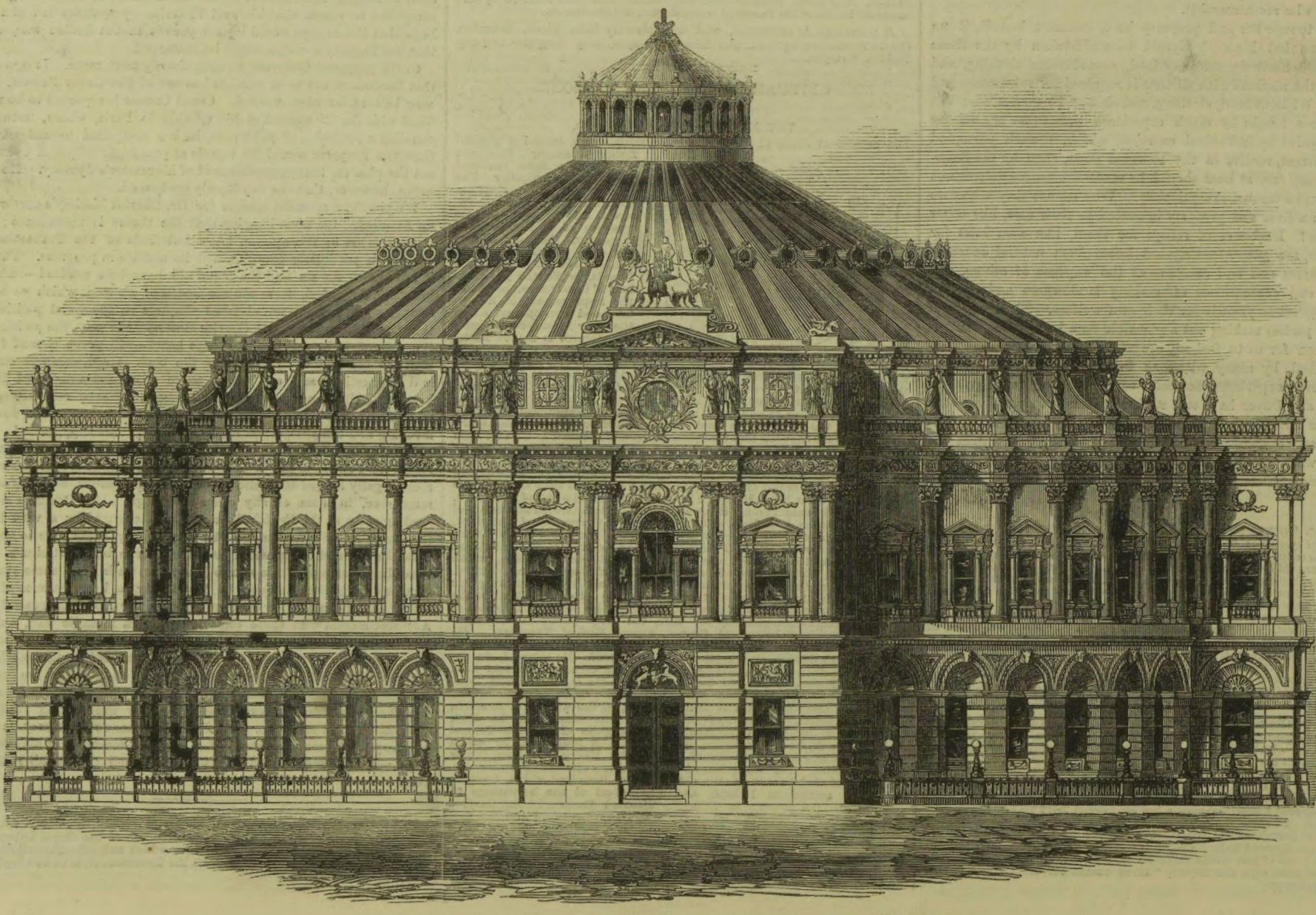
Rosa Bonheur appears in three specimens—one an oil-painting of "Sheep in a Landscape" (Brittany). We remark in this cabinet picture all the wonderful truth of animal painting—that softness, juiciness, and crispness of vegetation, and that charming coolness and transparency of atmosphere, which so eminently distinguish her pencil, and in which she confessedly stands unrivalled. Her other two performances are elaborate studies, the one of an "Apple-tree in Blossom," the other a "Cherry-tree in Blossom;" and wonderful they are for painstaking detail and the exactitude of imitation in the various hues employed.

Auguste Bonheur has a "Landscape with Sheep" and "Cattle Watering," which display talent and feeling in the same school.

Over the chimney-piece, on each side of Madlle. Rosa Bonheur's sheep, are two marvellous specimens of fine drawing and minute finish by Jean Leon Gerome, pupil of Paul Delaroche, the one representing "An Albanian Soldier" lounging on a seat, the other "An Arnaut Soldier Drinking." These examples are worthy of the attention of the young artists of our new school, as showing the possibility of displaying the most scrupulous exactness and truth of detail without the appearance of pedantry or extravagance. On the other hand, it must be admitted that these efforts show little of what is termed the poetry of art, being art of the highest class, but *ars et præterea nihil*.

Next we light upon Frere's touching scenes in humble life, which so subtle in sentiment, so full of observation, so exquisite in finish, yet so perfectly free from all appearance of exertion or attempt at display, come nearer to supply the place of Wilkie than any works of the class we have seen from other hands, whether native or foreign. There is, to be sure, a little sameness observable in some of them, as in "The Toilet," "The Breakfast," and "The Artisan's Family," in each of which a mother and child figure as principal objects, with very little variety of attitude. "The Cut Finger," "Wood Gatherers (Winter)," and "The Evening Prayer," show a wider range of invention.

Amongst other *genre* subjects in that new school of domestic illustration now so popular in France are one or two of extraordinary merit. "Rustic Courtship," by Jules Adolphe Breton, is cleverly conceived: a young countryman hastily declaring his love to a rustic beauty, seated at her spinning-wheel, while her mother dozes in a chair at the other side of the apartment. Chaplin has some graceful figure-subjects, of which those entitled "The Toilet" and "The Album," particularly pleased us. Chavet's "Chessplayers," is a capital group, amongst whom the exciting interest of the game is sufficiently manifested, without any betrayal into grimace. "The Young Housekeeper," by Dyckmans, is another modest realisation of an every-day occurrence—a young married woman holding audience



PRIZE DESIGN FOR A CIRCUS FOR EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCES.—BY THOMAS VAUGHAN.



"BEGGARS AT A CHURCH DOOR AT ROME"—PAINTED BY MRS. MURRAY.—AT THE EXHIBITION OF THE INSTITUTION OF FINE ARTS.

SEE SUPPLEMENT, PAGE 362.

of servants of her establishment, and examining their accounts. "The Little Coquette," by Gratia, is a pretty little bit, though upon an oft-told tale of female vanity—a nice young girl tying on a wreath of flowers, and admiring herself in the glass. "The Smiles," by Lies, is an ingenious composition of three young persons, smiling in three several degrees of intensity, from very nearly a broad grin to the faintest lighting up of the countenance, as of the first sunray after a long night of sorrow. Plassan's "The Banquet" and "The Tired Sempstress," Seignac's "The Harlequin," and Trayer's "The Letter" and "The Convalescent," and "The Cradle," by Lassalle, are worthy of honourable notice, and illustrate the wide and diversified field from which this class of art culls its subjects.

"The Brussels Archers Paying the last Respects to the Counts Egmont and Horn," by Louis Gallait, is one of the most striking pictures in the room, though the subject is of so painful a character as almost to be revolting. We have here before us the bodies of two martyrs of the Dutch liberties, lying on a bier and covered with a black pall, which just conceals the cut which has severed the head

from the trunk, surrounded by their devoted admirers, who are paying them the last honours. The faces are terrible in the death-like palor displayed in them, and the whole scene is an impressive one. This picture is, we believe, a repetition of a larger performance produced some years ago.

But, in the historical line, unquestionably the most remarkable work in the collection is Leys' "Early Days of the Reformation—Wiesseling, the Carpenter of Antwerp, secretly expounding the Scriptures." The artist has, not inappropriately, chosen to treat his subject in the severe, careful, and highly-finished style of the early German, or rather of the early Flemish, school, which was distinguished for the expression of the heads. Every head in this picture is a study, and, be it added, a distinct study. There is no mannerism displayed in them; none of that sameness of model which betrays the paucity of resource of second-rate artists; every person is a creation, with a several existence, but with a unity of influence acting upon them all, which results in a perfect harmony in the general effect. Another picture by the same artist, "Scene from the Siege of Antwerp," showing a lady interceding for the pre-

servation of a church, is simpler in construction, but equally earnest in character.

Brion displays a very large and spirited canvas, "Early Morning on the Rhine," showing a large raft of timber floating down the rapid stream, whilst the crew tug and push at the oars to guide it in its course, the extreme end of the huge structure being dimly seen through the mist in the distance.

Troyon has some fine cattle pieces, painted with a firm hand and a solid brush, of which let us particularise "A Country Fair in France" and "Cattle Driven to the Pond." In landscape Lambinet deservedly holds a prominent rank amongst his own countrymen, and he will be none the less welcome here for the predilection he has shown for English scenery and the English style of treatment. His view "Near Haerlem, Holland," is as masterly as it is agreeable in effect. Several views from Wickham and other parts of Buckinghamshire will exemplify his taste for English rural scenery. "The Place St. Marc, Venice," by Wyld, is a broad, bold view, somewhat à la Turner, forcibly painted, and satisfactory in the general effect.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

[The following abstract of the Parliamentary intelligence for Friday, April 1, appeared in our Saturday edition of this Journal last week.]

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 1.

After some general business had been transacted, The Earl of DERBY rose, and, in moving the adjournment of the House, said he hoped their Lordships would not construe his silence on the present state of public affairs into any disregard of the vote of the previous night. On the contrary, he considered that vote to be so serious that he had felt it his duty to invite his colleagues to meet him that morning, and had subsequently had an interview with her Majesty. He had not, however, received permission from her Majesty to acquaint their Lordships with what had transpired at that interview; but he hoped on Monday night to be able to lay before them a statement as to the advice which, with the concurrence of his colleagues, he had tendered to her Majesty, and the course which, with her Majesty's sanction, they intended to adopt. Considering the serious state of public affairs, and the course taken by the House of Commons, he thought it expedient at once to propose the adjournment of the House till Monday.

The motion was agreed to, and the House adjourned forthwith.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

MINISTERIAL EXPLANATION.—DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

The Earl of DERBY, in a crowded and excited House, rose to explain the course which the Government had determined to adopt under pending circumstances. After alluding to the importance of the vote passed in the Commons on Thursday night, he proceeded to examine the conditions under which it had been carried, and, while recognising on his own part the support of a large and united Conservative party, remarked upon the divisions into which the Liberal section of the Legislature was broken up, and which he attributed chiefly to the personal rivalry existing between Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell. He then illustrated the political career of the latter noble Lord by a rapid review of the Parliamentary movements and Ministerial changes in which he had taken part ever since the year 1834. Passing on to the accession of his own Government to office in February, 1858, Lord Derby acknowledged the difficulties under which they had attempted to conduct the affairs of the country, enjoying as they did the support of only a minority in the Commons. Among the difficulties of their position not the least arose from the necessity of dealing with the question of Parliamentary Reform. This duty had been bequeathed to them as a sort of "damnosus hereditas" by preceding Administrations. They had, however, undertaken to bring in a measure on the subject, and had fulfilled their pledge by introducing a bill framed in no one-sided or party spirit, but designed upon equitable and moderate principles, and for which they were ready to challenge that fair and impartial consideration which the House of Commons had promised to bestow upon it. This impartial consideration it had not received, being met by a resolution which barred all discussion, and whose supporters, after seven nights' debate, had failed to indicate the principles of the Reform Bill which they would themselves recommend. There were, indeed, manifest symptoms that the union which had subsisted among the majority in voting for the resolution would the next moment be dissolved by the conflict of opinion between its various sections respecting all the important elements of the measure that should be substituted for the Government bill. The opportunity for a satisfactory settlement of the Reform question had been thus frustrated, much, as he believed, to the disadvantage of the country. Reverting to the position of the Government, the noble Earl indignantly repudiated the advice of Lord Palmerston, that they should retain office and proceed with the bill under the dictation of the Opposition, and denounced his arrogant assertion that Parliament would, or could, refuse consent to its own dissolution. This late vote had indeed left the Ministry only two alternatives—either to resign their offices or dissolve Parliament. The latter of these alternatives had been their final choice; and they had accordingly recommended, and received her Majesty's sanction for, a dissolution as soon as the public business which brooked no delay could possibly be despatched. To this resolve they had come, partly from the wish to obtain the distinct opinion of the country on their policy and conduct, and partly under the persuasion that a change of Administration in England at the present crisis would strongly militate against the prospect of preserving peace in Europe. An appeal to the country would therefore be made when the state of public business permitted, and to the results of that appeal he looked with unshaken confidence. Meantime, he remarked, the Reform Bill was dropped, the question was postponed for another year, and no single member of the Conservative party was pledged to any one of the provisions which the late measure had contained. The problem laid before the country was whether the duties of Government were to be intrusted to the present Ministers, or placed at the mercy of a disunited array of politicians, who could combine to overthrow an Administration, but possessed no principle of cohesion among themselves for any legislative or administrative purpose.

Earl GRANVILLE confessed that the days of party Government, in the old acceptance of the term, were passed away. He, nevertheless, contended that no Administration could properly fulfil their duties if they did not possess a policy, and enjoy the confidence of a majority in the House of Commons. He vindicated the Liberal party from the charge of disunion, and censured Lord Derby for attacking absent individuals. There was, he maintained, nothing in the information before the House which justified the assertion that peace would be endangered if the present Administration were forced to resign. Respecting the Reform Bill, he observed that its principles had been objected to by two former colleagues of the Government, condemned by a majority of the Commons, and now, it appeared, abandoned by its own authors. The course adopted by the Ministry, though involving a serious responsibility, was, he admitted, perfectly legitimate and constitutional. He wished, at the same time, to know on what precise issues the appeal to the country was to be rested?

The subject then dropped.

Some further business was afterwards disposed of.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made the anticipated statement regarding the future course of her Majesty's Ministers. Referring to the recent vote, he declared that they neither intended to proceed with their Reform Bill nor to introduce any other measure on the subject. Nevertheless, he claimed for the Conservatives the full right to deal with that or any other subject. Parliamentary Reform was a question which should not be allowed to become a personal appanage, or the property of any political party. Reserving their future right to deal with the question, the right hon. gentlemen submitted that they had faithfully redeemed the pledge they had given to bring in a measure of Reform, a promise which, he observed, they had inherited from former Governments. The late vote had compelled the Administration to consider their position, which was, he admitted, to some extent, a painful one, and not the less so because it was not altogether unprecedented, the Government having more than once previously been placed in a minority upon questions of considerable importance. After adverting to the motives which had on former occasions of the sort prevented them from taking any positive step, and which, he observed, arose from three sources—first, the manifest disunion among the Liberal party; secondly, the critical state of affairs in Europe; and, thirdly, the wish to fulfil their promise to introduce a Reform Bill—Mr. Disraeli remarked that the vote of Thursday, being proposed and accepted as a vote of censure, admitted of no compromise or delay. He acknowledged the forbearance which the House, and especially the Opposition, had exercised towards the Government, and himself personally, when attempting to conduct public affairs under the disadvantageous circumstances of their position. Recurring to the vote, he contended that it had been brought forward by leaders who advocated a contrary policy, and supported by a majority whose union ceased from the moment that the result was proclaimed. That vote was, he believed, prejudicial to the honour of Parliament, and injurious to the interests of the country. Finally, he stated that, as the Ministry did not believe that they had forfeited the confidence of the country, they had advised her Majesty to dissolve Parliament at the earliest period which the time required for the completion of some indispensable business, such as the passing of continuance bills and votes of money on account, would permit.

Lord PALMERSTON reciprocated the compliment which Mr. Disraeli had pronounced upon the conduct of the Opposition. With regard to the late vote, he submitted that it did not amount to a vote of censure, nor did he agree in the conclusion that the Government were bound to dissolve or resign whenever the House expressed any disapprobation of certain provisions in their measures. The Administration had brought in their bill in satisfaction of a pledge not originally given by themselves, and, though they had failed, this discomfiture need not have compelled them to take the step they had now announced. As it was, however, he acknowledged, that the proceeding was legitimate; and, although he thought it unwise, he did not intend to offer any opposition to it. He hoped, indeed, that there would be no unnecessary delay in winding up business in the House, and that the dissolution might take place before Easter.

Mr. BRIGHT believed that the step which Government had taken was perfectly right and wise. He did not apprehend any dangerous agitation among the constituencies on the question of Reform, and denied the assertion thrown out by Mr. Disraeli, that the choice lay between a Conservative bill and a Revolutionary one. His own bill he declared was strictly founded upon the principles of the Act of 1832, and preserved all the landmarks which for sixty years past statesmen of the highest eminence had sought to establish and retain. From the new House which was so soon to assemble he anticipated a measure of Reform at once safe and substantial.

Lord J. RUSSELL defended his resolution both as to its principle and its terms. He denied that by introducing it he in the slightest degree compromised the interests of peace, inquiring why the Government had brought forward their bill if the discussion which it was sure to provoke was so dangerous? The appeal to the country on the question was, he thought, very judicious. The present Parliament was quite competent to deal with the subject; and the Ministry ought, he thought, to have exhausted every means of passing a satisfactory measure before resorting to the extreme

proceeding of a dissolution. Lord John then indicated the provisions of the Reform Bill of which he should have approved, which included a £10 franchise in counties and £6 in boroughs, the introduction of several of what were called "fancy franchises," the preservation of the votes enjoyed by the free men, and a large admission of the working classes to electoral privileges. The question relating to the disfranchisement of small boroughs and redistribution of seats ought, he considered, to be dealt with in a separate measure. His proposition was to withdraw twenty-six members from that number of the least populous boroughs now returning two representatives. These, with the four vacancies already existing, would give thirty seats for the larger centres of population. To the ballot he still retained his objection, and should vote against every proposal for introducing that system in any scheme of Reform.

A miscellaneous conversation ensued, in which Mr. Drummond, Mr. Horsman, Mr. Deedes, Mr. Newdegate, and many other members, took part.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, replying to the questions that had been asked in the course of the discussion, stated that the Superannuation Bill would be proceeded with before the dissolution. He hoped to have public business so advanced as to be able to dissolve Parliament when the House rose for the Easter holidays. The elections would be carried through, and the new House convened, with all possible dispatch.

THE INDIA LOAN BILL.

Lord STANLEY, in moving the third reading of this bill, entered into various details respecting the previous loans which had been raised for Indian purposes, either at home or in Hindostan; the deficiencies in the Indian Exchequer caused by the late revolt; and the financial exigencies for which provision had to be made. In the year 1857-8 the deficiency was estimated at nine millions, and in 1858-9 at thirteen millions. These were met by loans already contracted. During the ensuing year one million increase was anticipated in the revenues from taxation, and a large saving would, it was hoped, be accomplished by the release of many regiments now on service in the country. Lord Canning had taken steps to raise a further loan in Calcutta, and had computed that four millions or four millions and a half more would suffice to meet the requirements of the coming financial year. There was, however, no intention of asking any larger borrowing powers than were included in the bill on the table during the continuance of the present Parliament.

Mr. V. SMITH complained that no improvement had been effected in the management of Indian financial affairs.

Mr. Vansittart, Mr. Crawford, Sir H. Willoughby, Sir C. Wood, Colonel Sykes, and other members, having followed with remarks upon the financial and political state of India,

The bill was read a third time and passed. Some other business was then disposed of.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The India Loan Bill was brought up from the Commons, and read a first time. The Earl of DERBY stated that when the bill was brought forward for second reading, on Thursday, he should move the suspension of the standing orders, with the view of passing the measure through all its remaining stages, that it might receive the Royal assent before the departure of the India mail of Saturday next, the 9th instant.

The Recreation Grounds Bill was read a second time.

The Patent Inventions (Munitions of War) Bill passed through Committee.

The Manslaughter Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. H. BERKELEY announced that on Tuesday next he should bring forward a motion on the subject of the ballot. The hon. gentleman subsequently stated that, in default of better opportunity, he should introduce his ballot resolution as an amendment on the motion for going into Committee of Supply.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved that Government orders of the day should have precedence of other business on every evening during the remainder of the Session. The motion was carried, after some remonstrances from Mr. SPOONER, who complained that he was thus deprived of the opportunity to move his resolution for the withdrawal of the grant to Maymoath.

Mr. DILLWYN, on behalf of Sir J. Trelawny, postponed the Church rates Bill, and Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald postponed the Roman Catholic Oaths Bill, until next Session.

Replying to Mr. V. Smith, Lord STANLEY stated that on Monday next he should move a vote of thanks to Lord Canning and other Indian functionaries and officers for their services during the late revolt.

The discussion in Committee of the Superannuation Bill was then resumed, and the remaining clauses passed after some considerable discussion.

The Public Offices Extension Bill and the Indemnity Bill were read a third time and passed.

THE GALWAY PACKET LINE.—Mr. HORSEFALL, in moving for some correspondence, called attention to the subject of the intended mail service between Galway and America. This service he complained had been assigned to a particular line of steamers, the Galway Packet Line, without the usual advertisement for public tenders.—Sir S. NORTHCOTE explained the reasons which had induced the Government to waive some of the ordinary conditions when granting the contract for a postal service with America to the company in question.—Considerable discussion followed, in which the merits of the Galway packet line, and the conduct of the Government in granting the subsidy for the postal service, were canvassed at much length, chiefly by the Irish members. The subject at last dropped, the papers moved for having been ordered.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

THEDISSOLUTION.—PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Lord PALMERSTON, alluding to some strictures made by Lord Derby in the House of Peers upon his speech in the Commons during the late debate on the Reform Bill, explained that he had never intended to challenge the prerogative of the Crown as to the time or cause for a dissolution of Parliament. He had merely suggested that, at a certain period of the Session, and in a certain condition of public business, when Supply votes had to be granted and the Appropriation Bill to be passed, the House might constitutionally exercise its right to refuse supplies, and vote instead an address to the Sovereign for the dismissal of the Government. It was only in this sense that his reference to the subject was to be interpreted; and, as a matter of fact, he quite concurred in the determination of the House not to interfere in any way, but to leave with the Ministry the entire responsibility for the step they had taken. Adverting to the question of Reform, the noble Lord added that he altogether agreed with the principles of the scheme indicated by Lord John Russell, although retaining the opinion he had previously expressed respecting the limits within which those principles should be practically carried out.

Sir J. PAKINGTON noticed the altered attitude which Lord Palmerston had assumed towards the Government. In his speech during the debate he had adopted a tone of menace, threatening to stop the supplies if they dared to attempt a dissolution. He rejoiced to find that this obstructive course was now abandoned.

Sir G. GREY reminded Ministers that they had prognosticated serious perils to the peace of Europe if their policy were hampered, and the House had, therefore, he believed, done wisely in leaving on their shoulders the whole responsibility for the course they had adopted. The comments hazarded "elsewhere" upon Lord Palmerston's speech were, he considered, unprecedented and irregular.

Colonel FRENCH insisted that the Government had no right to dissolve, except with the view of strengthening their position as regarded the special question on which they had been defeated.

Mr. MALINS contended that all responsibility for the dissolution lay with the opponents of her Majesty's Ministers in the late discussion.

Sir G. C. LEWIS repudiated this responsibility, and maintained that the question laid before the country was not one of confidence in a particular Ministry, but whether a particular Reform Bill was or was not to be accepted.

Mr. B. OSBORNE thought that the present Parliament had nothing further to do with Reform. The question was now remitted to the hustings.

Mr. Secretary ESTCOURT shifted the issue of the appeal to the country. The real question to be decided was, he declared, whether the business of the country was to be carried on by the present Government or transferred to another Administration.

SUPPLY.

The House, after some further discussion, resolved itself into Committee of Supply, and several votes were taken on account.

On the House resuming, two or three formal and continuance bills were brought in and read a first time.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

EAST INDIA LOAN BILL.

The Earl of DERBY moved the second reading of this bill. Their Lordships, he said, would not expect him again to go over the same ground as on the night when the bill was introduced. Their Lordships would understand that in asking their sanction to the second reading of the bill he was asking for the sum in question as a grant on account. He would take this opportunity of informing their Lordships, and of giving notice, that on Monday next it was his intention to move a vote of thanks to the gallant men in India by whose assistance, under the blessing of Almighty God, the bloody revolt with which that country had been just convulsed had been finally suppressed. He would also inform their Lordships that it was the intention of her Majesty to issue her commands to the right rev. Primate of the head of the Church to prepare a suitable prayer of thanksgiving to Almighty God for his mercies in permitting this termination to their labours. With regard to a subject on which a noble Lord had asked him a question on a previous evening—namely, the railways of India, their Lordships were aware that under the existing system the Government guaranteed a certain return on the capital expended in works of this kind. When the profits reached five per cent, half were handed over to the Government in liquidation of the advance made on the guarantee by the Indian Government, and half were

distributed among the shareholders. There was also a constant communication going on between the Indian and Home Government by which these transactions were carried on without the transmission of any actual bullion. With regard now to a question put by a noble Earl opposite as to what steps were being taken for the reduction of the great military expenses of India, he could, while reminding their Lordships that the late expenses arose from causes which were altogether of an exceptional character, assure their Lordships that he was sensible of the vast importance of reducing the military expenditure, and was sure that no step relating to Indian finance was more necessary than now. The present force in India was about 112,000 European troops, and nearly 200,000 native troops, including native police; and at the present moment the number of native troops, including police, exceeded by 50,000 men the whole number of native troops at our disposal at the commencement of the mutiny. Instructions had been sent to the Governor-General, now that the mutiny was at an end, to decrease the number of native troops, especially the newly-raised levies; but this was necessarily a slow process. The principal departments in which a reduction of expenditure was taking place were the Commissariat department, the conveyance of troops, and others; while the cessation of new military appointments would materially tend to lessen the cost of maintaining the army. Their Lordships must know that it was by no means a simple thing to decrease the number of European troops; but the Governor-General had intimated his intention of sending home to this country ten regiments of the line in the course of the present year, and the time was now coming when it was absolutely necessary to settle the permanent peace establishments in India. It would be necessary to ascertain really what proportion might be safely maintained between the number of native and European troops on the permanent military establishment of India; but at the same time it would be necessary to remember that for a long time after the rebellion had been completely suppressed it would be advisable to keep a strong European force in that country, and ensure with absolute certainty the supremacy of this country. In conclusion he could, however, assure the noble Earl opposite that the Governor-General was perfectly sensible of the necessity of speedily reducing the military expenditure. He believed he had now touched upon all the points on which noble Lords had questioned him; but if there were any further doubt in the minds of any noble Lord he should be happy to do all he could to remove it.

The Duke of ARGYLL said that he entertained strong hopes that the finances of India would, in the course of time, be established on a sound and substantial basis; but at the present time there were certain questions on which it was of the utmost importance that all parties should come to a satisfactory understanding. Was it true, or was it not, that the Imperial Exchequer of this country was liable for the debt that had unavoidably been contracted during the suppression of the late rebellion? He had a firm conviction of the immense resources of the Indian empire, and he looked forward to the time—it might be far distant, but it would eventually come, he had no doubt—when the immense population of that country would be infinitely more prosperous than at present; but this would in no way justify her Majesty's Government in maintaining an extravagant expenditure now.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH spoke at some length upon the general question of Indian finance, and in condemnation of the system of Government guarantees for public works.

After some remarks from the Earl of Albemarle, the bill was read a second time, and, after the suspension of the standing orders, it went through Committee, was read a third time, and passed.

Several other bills were forwarded a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

THE AFFAIRS OF ITALY.—Lord PALMERSTON: I beg to give notice that I shall to-morrow, on the motion for the adjournment of the House till Monday, make some observations on the state of our foreign relations, and ask the Government to state, as far as may be consistent with their public duty, what is the present position in which this country stands, either as a mediator or negotiator, in regard to the discussions now going on at Paris or elsewhere respecting the affairs of Italy and Europe generally.

MANOR COURTS (IRELAND) BILL.—The Lords' amendments to this bill were considered and agreed to.

EXCHEQUER BONDS.—On the bringing up of the report on Supply, Sir G. C. LEWIS asked for some explanation as to the course which the Government proposed to take with regard to the £2,000,000 of Exchequer Bonds falling due in May.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he had intended to make a financial statement on Monday, but under the circumstances it was not to be expected that he would make that statement, either wholly or in part. With regard, however, to the Exchequer Bonds referred to, he might say that he intended to pay them off definitely, without borrowing any money for that purpose.

THE ESTIMATES.—The House then went into Committee of Supply on the Navy Estimates, and agreed to a variety of votes without any discussion of interest, as well as some votes in the Army Estimates, so finishing the supplies for those services for the present Session.

The Tramways (Ireland) Bill, and the Superannuation Bill, were read a third time, and passed.

The Pauper Maintenance Bill, and the Railway Ticket Transfer Bill, were read a second time.

NEWSPAPERS, &c., BILL.—The House having gone into Committee on this bill, Mr. AYTON asked whether it was the intention of the Government to oppose, as if so it would be useless for him to proceed further at present?—Mr. S. ESTCOURT said there were some provisions of the bill which he was bound to oppose; but he would undertake to consider the subject, and bring in a bill next Session to deal with it.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL admitted that the system of registration was not strictly enforced; and said it would be a point for consideration, before bringing in a new bill, whether some new system should not be adopted in its place.—After some remarks from Mr. E. James and Mr. M. Gibson the bill was withdrawn.

WILLS.—The will and five codicils of Vice-Admiral the Right Hon. Edmund Baron Lyons, G.C.B., K.C.H., D.C.L., G.C.M.G., Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's Fleet in the Mediterranean and Black Sea, was proved in the London Court of Probate, in the principal Registry, on the 28th of March, by the Most Noble Henry Granville FitzAlan, Duke of Norfolk, the son-in-law, and the Right Hon. Richard Bickerton Pemmell, Baron Lyons, the son, the surviving executors. The personality was sworn under £45,000. The will was made on the 16th of August, 1850, and a codicil on the same day. His Lordship has bequeathed to Lady Lyons for her life his mansion at Bath, with the books, china, furniture, plate (not bequeathed to the son, the present Baron), and the carriages and horses for her use, and a life interest arising from his real estate, and from the residue of his personal estate. He leaves an annuity of £20 to Mrs. Fountain, a servant in the family, and a legacy of £200 to Mrs. Flacco, who for many years has attended upon Lady Lyons. His Lordship bequeaths to his son (now Lord Lyons) all his shares in the Alliance Assurance Offices, the bust and portrait of Sir Richard Bickerton, and the plate not left for the use and enjoyment of Lady Lyons. Reference is made to his Lordship's marriage settlement, whereby, on the decease of the last survivor of himself and Lady Lyons, it was their joint wish that a sum of £500 should be at the disposal of his daughter, the Baroness de Wurtzburg, to purchase some token as a memorial of the attachment of her father and mother; and as their younger son, Captain Mowbray Lyons, has since died in the late war in Therapia, his Lordship has directed that £2000, part of what would have been his son's portion of the estate, should be left to his said daughter, the Baroness; the rest of the estates under settlement will be inherited by Lord Lyons; and upon the decease of Lady Lyons his Lordship bequeaths £6000 to his said daughter, the Baroness de Wurtzburg, and the residue to his son, the present Baron, the daughters being amply provided for. The documents are all signed "Edmund Lyons," his Lordship not having made any testamentary disposition since his elevation to the Peerage.

The will of the Venerable John Williams, M.A., Archdeacon of Cardigan, Canon of St. David's, and Prebendary of Brecon, of Llandovery, Carmarthenhire, was proved in London, in the principal Registry of the Court of Probate, on the 30th of March, by the executors, Miss Jane Eliza Williams, the eldest daughter, and Robert Cunliffe, Esq., solicitor, Chancery-lane, the son-in-law. The personality was sworn under £6000. The Archdeacon bequeaths to his said eldest daughter, for her own absolute use, his library of books, and all his letters, correspondence, and literary remains; and directs that she may publish, for her own benefit, within twelve months after his decease, one edition, of twelve hundred copies, of any such of his works as she may select. He bequeaths to trustees in trust the copyright of all his works, and directs that they may publish any of his works at the expense and risk of the estate, and may continue those in course of publication; and leaves to them the residue of his property, to pay thereout to each of his unmarried daughters a sum equal to £1700, and the remainder amongst all his daughters equally. The will is short, and bears date the 15th of December, 1858. He died on the 27th of the same month, at Bushey Heath, Herts.

Letters of administration of the effects of the Hon. Mary Yelverton, of Thane Cottage, Amsworth, Pembrokehire, who died on the 7th of February last, intestate and unmarried, were granted by the London Court of Probate, on the 29th of March, to her brother, the Hon. William Henry Yelverton, of Whitland Abbey, Carmarthenshire, as one of the next of kin, her father and mother having died during her lifetime. Her Ladyship was the daughter of the second Viscount Avonmore, and the sister of the present Peer.

The Scottish Royal Naval Coast Volunteers are now being re-enrolled, the *Banff Journal* says, for another period of five years.

The *Official Journal of the Two Sicilies* of the 29th ult. announces that the health of the King had so much improved that his Majesty was able to preside at a Council of State held at Caserta. Other accounts, however, state that the King's health continues to decline.

The Count de Chambord and his sister, the Duchess Regent of Parma, have sold the forests of Fayet and Hamets, in the Vosges, to the Marquis de Pimodan, Lieut.-Colonel and Chamberlain of the Emperor of Austria, for the sum of 415,000 fr.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

The *Globe* of Tuesday, in the style of a semi-official announcement, stated that the prorogation may probably take place on the 16th inst., and the dissolution immediately after, the new writs being issued on the same evening, as was the case at the dissolution of 1857. If this information be correct the borough elections may be expected to take place before the close of this month. The columns of the daily papers indicate that the General Election begins to absorb the attention of the country. Appeals to the constituencies at large make their appearance, such as those of the Ballot Society and the Society for the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge. Addresses from candidates also—the first drops of the shower which will presently deluge the country—have been issued. The first of these manifestoes which appeared was Mr. Disraeli's address to the electors of Buckinghamshire, which we give below. The keynote of this characteristic composition was struck in the peroration of a speech recently delivered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which he avowed his confidence that the loyalty of the English people would uphold her Majesty's Government against the machinations of an Opposition whose discordant sections were only capable of uniting for the purpose of weakening the authority of every Conservative Administration. The four members who now represent the city of London—Lord John Russell, Baron Rothschild, Sir James Duke, and Mr. Crawford—will again go to the hustings. Mr. Apsley Pellatt solicits the suffrages of the electors of Southwark; and Sir Morton Peto has announced his intention to stand for Finsbury, now represented by Mr. Duncombe and Mr. Cox. Sir Benjamin Hall and Mr. James will, in all likelihood, be re-elected for Marylebone. We annex a few particulars of the doings in some of the counties and boroughs:—

At Bedford the sitting members have again offered themselves as candidates. At Boston Mr. Ingram has published an address (which is given elsewhere), and will seek the honour of re-election. The retirement of Mr. Adams has called into the field two new aspirants for Parliamentary honours. At Brighton the return of the sitting members is considered safe. Sir W. F. Williams of Kars will be unopposed at Calne. In East Gloucestershire Sir C. W. Codrington and Mr. R. S. Holford are not likely to be disturbed. The Conservative members for Herefordshire have already issued addresses to their constituents. Hertfordshire, it is thought, will be fiercely contested. Mr. Huddleston has issued an address to the electors of Kidderminster in opposition to Mr. Lowe. At Leeds Mr. G. S. Beercoft, the Conservative member, has offered himself for re-election, whilst the Right Hon. T. M. Baines has issued a farewell address. Mr. E. Baines, his brother, has been asked to stand. Mr. E. Forster is the candidate of the extreme Liberals. In South Lincolnshire Mr. G. H. Packer has again come forward in opposition to Sir J. Trollope and Mr. Willson. The leading members of the Liberal party in Liverpool have resolved that no second Liberal candidate shall be brought forward there unless the Conservatives introduce a second one on their side. Colonel Somerset and Mr. O. Morgan will be brought forward for re-election in Monmouthshire. For West Norfolk Mr. Gordon, the present Liberal sitting member, will offer himself again; whilst Mr. W. Bage and Mr. Bentinck, one of the present members, are spoken of as Conservative candidates. Mr. Walter has issued a farewell address to his constituents at Nottingham, it being his intention, we believe, to stand for Berkshire. It is understood that Mr. Gladstone will offer himself for re-election at Oxford University, and that Sir W. Heathcote will retire. Mr. Milnes has issued an address to the electors of Pontefract; and for Portsmouth Sir F. Baring and Sir H. Keppel are candidates. Mr. Monsen and Mr. Layard are at present the only candidates at Reigate. It is stated that Mr. Cobden will be put forward for Rochdale. There is not likely to be any opposition to the re-election of the Hon. G. H. Heathcote and the Hon. G. Noel for Rutlandshire. Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Hadfield, the present members for Sheffield, offer themselves for re-election. The return of the present members for West Somerset will, from present appearances, be unopposed. The sitting members for Southampton will again come forward. There are three Conservatives in the field for West Suffolk—Capt. Bennett, Lord Jernyn, and Major Parker. Mr. Labouchere and Mr. Mills will present themselves to the Taunton people for re-election; and Sir W. G. Hayter and Capt. H. Jolliffe will do the same at Wells. Nothing appears to be known about the future representation of the West Riding of Yorkshire, beyond the fact that Sir W. Ramsden, one of the present representatives, will offer himself for re-election.

MR. DISRAELI'S ADDRESS TO HIS CONSTITUENTS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has issued the following address:—
TO THE ELECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM.
Gentlemen,—A Parliamentary majority, composed of discordant sections, has availed itself of its numerical strength to embarrass her Majesty's Government, and, by a disingenuous manoeuvre, to intercept the discussion of their measures.

A year ago Lord Derby was summoned by her Majesty to undertake the administration of public affairs. Assisted by his colleagues, he has, with diligence and devotion, endeavoured to discharge his duty to the country.

The blow which has lately been inflicted on the Government deprives it of authority, and yet in the ranks of the Opposition there is no more unity of sentiment than when their distracted politics rendered it necessary that Lord Derby should assume the helm.

The Opposition in the present House of Commons, which was elected under ambiguous circumstances, is broken into sections, which can always combine and overthrow the Queen's Government, however formed. This is a condition alike prejudicial to Parliament and to the Empire.

It is for the country to comprehend and to remedy these evils. The moment is critical. England has engaged to mediate between two great Monarchs, and, if possible, preserve for Europe the blessings of peace. It is necessary that the Queen's Government should be supported by a patriotic Parliament.

Her Majesty, therefore, under the advice of her Ministers, will shortly prorogue the present Parliament, with a view to its immediate dissolution, and will recur to the sense of her people, so that those who may be intrusted with her Majesty's confidence may be enabled to conduct the Government with becoming authority.

Under these circumstances I rely on the loyalty and public spirit of the county of Buckingham to rally round her Majesty's Government, and to return me, for the sixth time, their member to Parliament.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obliged and faithful servant,

Downing-street, April 4, 1859.

B. DISRAELI

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE
KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION
Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above sea 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF				THERMOMETER.		WIND.		RAIN in 24 hours.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum read at 10 A.M.	Maximum read at 10 P.M.	General Direction.	
March 16	29.944	48.8	39.1	71	0	39.4	56.0	W. WNW.	.865
" 17	29.745	48.7	42.2	80	10	47.2	54.1	BSW. SW.	.677
" 18	29.670	44.5	32.7	66	4	36.6	53.0	W. WNW.	.244
" 19	29.250	42.7	33.0	71	2	35.2	52.3	W. NW.	.147
" 20	29.204	47.5	39.2	75	0	34.3	53.5	SW.	.383
" 21	29.345	40.1	35.7	86	4	44.4	53.6	NNW. WNW.	.340
" 22	29.363	42.3	25.0	54	2	34.7	47.6	NNW.	.255
" 23	30.140	47.0	41.5	83	10	39.8	49.9	SW. W.	.202
" 24	30.069	50.1	44.1	81	10	45.3	53.0	WSW. WNW.	.268
" 25	29.984	49.5	41.7	77	9	47.0	55.2	SW.	.310
" 26	29.944	48.8	38.0	68	10	45.5	56.0	SSW. SW.	.273
" 27	29.961	49.0	42.0	78	10	43.2	53.8	SW. WSW.	.295
" 28	29.651	48.2	41.0	78	7	46.6	54.8	WNW.	.457
" 29	29.203	46.0	33.2	64	8	42.0	53.7	W. N. W.	.391
" 30	29.458	35.6	33.5	93	10	34.8	40.8	S. SSW.	—
" 31	29.107	33.4	26.3	78	1	28.8	42.1	SW. WSW.	—
April 1	30.250	37.6	21.4	56	5	23.8	50.1	SSW. SW.	.288
" 2	29.997	45.2	44.4	97	10	40.0	—	SW. WSW.	.428
" 3	30.164	53.0	49.3	90	6	—	64.2	SSW. SW.	.397
" 4	30.155	54.9	42.1	64	5	44.1	65.8	SW. W. WSW.	.314
" 5	30.151	56.1	43.9	66	7	42.3	67.0	SW. W. S.	.192

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS IN THE CHURCH.—The Rev. S. Banks, Rector of Cottenham, to be Official of the Archdeacon of Ely. Rev. P. Williams to be Minor Canon of Chester Cathedral. Rectories: Rev. A. R. Faussett to St. Cuthbert, York; Rev. E. H. Goldsmith to Duntson Rouse, Gloucestershire; Rev. J. H. Reibey to Denbury, Devon. Vicarages: Rev. J. James to Long Sutton; Rev. W. Kendall to Coombe Key nes, with East Lulworth, Dorset; Rev. G. Mackie to Chilners Cotton, near Nuneaton, Warwickshire; Rev. R. P. Stanley to Felstead, Essex. Incumbency: Rev. W. G. Carroll to St. Bridget's, Dublin. Chaplaincy: Rev. W. E. Brendon to Manchester Cathedral. Curacies: Rev. J. M. Browne to Middleton, Lancashire; Rev. J. Harding to Ballinderry, Connor; Rev. O. Heywood to Corsham; Rev. T. S. Hughes to St. George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol; Rev. — Meyrick to Canning Town, Plaistow Marsh, Essex; Rev. J. A. Parke to Innishargy, Down; Rev. T. D. Pratt to St. John's, Bowling, Bradford, Yorkshire; Rev. T. D. Shepherd to St. James's, Heywood, Lancashire; Rev. O. A. Tibbado to Ballinamore, Kilmore; Rev. W. T. Turpin to Lydally, Meath.

MUSIC.

THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA (Covent Garden) opened on Saturday last. The first night of the season presented very little novelty, and furnished little matter for remark. The opera was the well-worn "Trovatore," in which it was announced that two performers were to make their first appearance in England—namely, Signora Lotti, who sustained the part of *Leonora*, and Signor Debassini, who was the *Count di Luna*. The announcement was correct in regard to Mdle. Lotti, who was an absolute novelty; but Debassini was at Her Majesty's Theatre some ten years ago. Mdle. Lotti is a charming person: she is young, blooming, and beautiful; and in her looks, voice, and manner there is that delightful freshness which is, alas! so fleeting, and the inevitable loss of which is not made up for by the most precious acquirements of matured talent. She is of middle stature, light and graceful, with regular features, and a winning expression of ingenuous modesty. She has one of the sweetest voices we have ever heard—a pure soprano, of delicate intonation, and no inconsiderable power and compass. As a vocalist, as well as an actress, she still has a good deal to learn, though nothing but what she is sure to acquire with time and experience. Her personation of the unhappy heroine was interesting and affecting; and her singing, though occasionally deficient in artistic finish and in the clear articulation of florid passages, was full of beauties—including the greatest of all beauties, expression. Though almost overwhelmed with that nervous fear from which few foreign debutants are exempted on facing for the first time a London audience, she soon, under the genial influence of a kind reception, recovered her self-possession, and succeeded in achieving a genuine triumph. Signor Debassini made, on the whole, a successful appearance. He lacks the mellifluous voice of Graziani, his predecessor in the part at this theatre; and this defect was strongly felt in the favourite air "Il balen del suo sorriso;" but he looked the proud noble well, acted with energy, and sang like a good musician. The other parts were performed by old acquaintances. Madame Antier Didise personated (as she did last season) the gipsy, *Azuena*, and displayed considerable histrionic powers, though her action was somewhat violent and exaggerated. To her singing no exception could be made. Neri Baraldi was a respectable representative of *Mauricio*. He had not the distinguished aspect and bearing which belong to the youthful hero; but he acted with intelligence and feeling, and his singing was frequently beautiful. The magnificent band, under their admirable chief, Costa, was in full force; and the opera was in all respects got up with the taste and splendour which have always characterised the Royal Italian Opera. The theatre was full of fashionable company. On the second night, Tuesday, the same opera was repeated; and Mdle. Lotti confirmed and strengthened the impression she had already made.

The lessee of Drury Lane, having completed the arrangements for his "Royal Italian Opera," has now issued a detailed prospectus of his season, of which the following is a very succinct summary:—The principal performers engaged are Mdle. Titiens (our last year's favourite at Her Majesty's Theatre), Mdle. Victoire Balle, Mdle. Weiser, Mdle. Sarolta, Mdle. Elvira Brambilla, Mdle. Guarducci, Mdle. Vaneri, Signor Giuglini, Signor Mongini, and the two Signors Graziani (the well-known baritone who is the subject of the dispute between Mr. Smith and Mr. Gye), and the tenor, who is new to England). Mr. Benedict is director of the music, composer, and conductor of the orchestra, which consists almost entirely of performers from Her Majesty's Theatre, with M. Tolbeque as the principal violin. In addition to the present repertoire of the theatre (which includes the most favourite operas of the day) Mr. Smith enumerates ten pieces, five (at least) of which will be produced during the season. They are, Verdi's "Macbeth" and "I Vespri Siciliani," Mercadante's "Il Giuramento," Donizetti's "Alma Bolera," Flotow's "Martha," Rossini's "Guglielmo Tell" and "La Gazza Ladra," Mozart's "Figaro," Glück's "Armida," and (perhaps) Petrella's "Ione," an opera newly produced with success in Italy. The season is to commence on the 25th of April, and to consist of sixty nights.

THE MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS are getting more and more classical. So very classical was that of Monday last, that, a very short time ago, nobody would have even dreamed of bringing such a thing before a public audience. The music was selected entirely from the works of Bach and Handel. The Bach portion included two grand organ fugues, performed by Mr. Best; airs from the oratorio of "The Passion," sung by Mr. Santley, Miss Homer, and Miss Dolby; a piano-forte fugue, played by Miss Arabella Goddard; and a solo on the violoncello, played by Signor Piatti. The Handel portion also contained two organ pieces, performed by Mr. Best; a pianoforte solo, which included "The Harmonious Blacksmith," played by Miss Goddard; and airs sung by Miss Dolby, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Wilbye Cooper. This severe selection not only drew a crowded audience, but was received from beginning to end with enthusiastic applause.

THE LONDON GLEE AND MADRIGAL UNION, a society newly formed, gave their first concert at the Hanover-square Rooms on Monday afternoon. The members, who are also the principal singers, are:—Trebles, Miss Wells and Miss Spiller; contralto, Miss Eyles; counter-tenors, Messrs. Young, Baxter, and Baraby; tenors, Messrs. Cummings, Land, and Howe; and basses, Messrs. Lawler, Wallworth, and Thomas. They are assisted by a select professional choir, and Mr. Land is the conductor of the concerts. On Monday the performance consisted of an admirable selection of masterpieces by the great madrigalists of the sixteenth century, and of glees by the more modern composers—Webbe, Cooke, Horsley, Bishop, &c. The singing was exquisite, and reminded us of what we used to hear in our youth, in the palmy days of the Bartlemans, Ballamys, Elliots, Vaughans, Evanses—the race of great English glee singers, long almost extinct, but now likely to be revived. The interest of the entertainment was much enhanced by the assistance given by Mr. Thomas Oliphant, the accomplished honorary secretary of the Madrigal Society, who interspersed the performances with brief remarks and annotations on the different pieces, full of curious information, and delivered in a lively conversational manner, which the audience found extremely pleasant.

The last of the three soirées of the MUSICAL UNION, given before Easter under the direction of Mr. Ella, took place at St. James's Hall on Tuesday. It was, as usual, a most elegant entertainment. The instrumental music consisted of Mozart's quintet in A, for clarinet and stringed instruments; Beethoven's duet, op. 5, for piano and violoncello; Haydn's quartet in G, No. 76; and solos on the pianoforte and violoncello. The performers were—violins, M. Remenyi and Herr Goffrie; viola, Mr. Doyle; violoncello, Signor Piatti; clarinet, Herr Papé; and pianoforte, Signor Andreoli. Most of these are familiarly known to the public; but of Signor Andreoli, who has been comparatively seldom heard, we may truly say that he is a most accomplished pianist, and that his duet with Piatti was one of the most finished things we have heard. The vocal music, too, was highly interesting. Mademoiselle Jenny Meyer, a young singer just arrived from Berlin, made her first appearance before an English audience, and obtained complete success. She sang Mendelssohn's fine songs, "Suleika" and "Rieselied," with smaller pieces of Taubert and Schubert; and in all of them, in addition to a charming voice, showed the qualities of a first-rate artist. M. Depret, the Belgian tenor lately arrived from Brussels, sang the scena from Mehul's "Joseph," "Champs paternels," and completely made good his Continental reputation as one of the first tenor singers of the day. His voice is of the finest quality, equally remarkable for power and sweetness, and his style and expression are of the highest order. As well as Mdle. Meyer, he was warmly applauded by the fashionable and critical audience who filled the hall.

A troupe of Italian artistes, under the direction of Mr. Willert Beale, are now performing with nightly success at the Theatre Royal, Dublin. Amongst the leading members of the corps are Madame Grisi, Madame Viardot Garcia, Mdle. Sedlatzek, Graziani, Signor Lanzoni, Signor Corsi, and Signor Mario. Not only have these distinguished artists appeared, in those compositions which for many seasons past have formed the repertoire of the London opera-houses, but, through their instrumentality, Mr. Beale has had the privilege of introducing Verdi's "Macbeth" to a Dublin audience before it has been represented either here or in Paris. The Dublin papers speak in the most enthusiastic manner both of the opera and of the performance.

THEATRES, &c.

LYCEUM.—Mr. E. Falconer, the lessee of this house and successful author of several dramas, inclusive of the very effective comedy of "Extremes," has ventured on producing a new play, in five acts, entitled "Francesca." The production is of the poetical class, and the dialogue is throughout of the serious kind. In story and structure it is much superior to his previous five-act drama on the "Cagots." The scene of the new tragedy—for to that category the piece certainly belongs—is in Venice, and the action in great part is dependent on Venetian manners. One of the great effects, for instance, requires the assumption that the custom of the time and place was that during courtship the lover was not permitted to see the lady's face. Thus it happens that *Antonio Foscarini* (Mr. Henry Vandenhoff) leads his bride to the altar, and does not, until she unmasks her features, identify her as the same who had an equivocal assignation with a friend of his, who was soon afterwards murdered in the streets. Doubtful of her chastity, and suspecting her as the cause of the assassination, *Antonio* rejects her proffered hand. Hereupon *Gratino*, her father (Mr. E. Falconer), becomes naturally indignant; and, being persuaded to defer his vengeance, occupies himself in contriving plots against the mistaken youth. *Gratino* arrives at the dignity of being one of the famous Council of Three, and in that capacity has the object of his hatred at a manifest disadvantage. He contrives to get him involved in a conspiracy, and then seizes him in order to put him to death. Meanwhile *Francesca* (Mrs. C. Young) has continued to love *Antonio*, and, just previous to the intended execution, has satisfied all parties of her innocence and *Antonio's* unintentional error. *Gratino*, however, is inflexible, and would hurry on the execution; but is temporarily disabled by a sudden attack of paralysis, which affords time for *Francesca* to get the pardon which she has obtained from the Senate into the hands of the executioner. *Gratino* recovers only to feel his disappointment more keenly; and, though his child's happiness is thereby secured, dies of his unnatural rage. Mr. Falconer in some parts of this character was unexpectedly good, but was manifestly unequal to it as a whole. Mrs. Charles Young, as the heroine, was energetic and earnest, and the general effectiveness of the play must be attributed to her efforts. The fault of the new production is that it is immensely overwritten, and would be more likely to live were the dialogue reduced, as it might easily be, to one-half. If we were allowed to repeat an old joke, we might propose the omission of nearly every other line as a judicious process. Many beautiful passages evince the possession of much poetic power on the part of Mr. Falconer; but judgment is wanted in the distribution of his figures. There are long speeches in the wrong places, and sometimes a superfluity of situations succeeding one on which it would have been better for the curtain to have fallen than at the more protracted period. Notwithstanding these objections the piece has merit, and should be successful. The public patronage is not often nowadays demanded for dramas of this class, and, therefore, ought to be extended to this, which, however imperfect, is still a true and genuine work, showing considerable dramatic talent, and much enthusiasm as well as much worthy ambition in the enterprising author.

HAYMARKET.—A new comedy in the three acts, by Mr. Stirling Coyne, was very successful on Saturday. It is entitled "Everybody's Friend," and appears to be an original production. The hero is represented by Mr. Charles Mathews, who, we think, dresses it very queerly and very unsatisfactorily, though he plays it, of course, very well. Mr. Featherly (such is the name of the general friend) is the husband of a very domestic wife (Mrs. C. Mathews), whose attractions, accordingly, are insufficient to keep him at home; whereupon he is anxious to create business that may take him abroad. He, therefore, interests himself in that of his acquaintance, and is willing to act as proxy on any and every occasion. As such, he is found addressing Mrs. Swandown (Miss Reynolds) as her lover, for he accidentally forgets to name his principal in the affair; and is next obliged, to save a lady's honour, to father a child, which he adroitly intrusts to the charitable care of the lady's husband. Mrs. Featherly at length, acting under the advice of Mrs. Swandown, affects gay life, gives a ball, and thus succeeds in attracting anew her husband's attention. The other entanglements gather around this incident, and in time have their solution. Everybody's friend has now business of his own, and no longer cherishes an interest in interfering with that of others. Major and Mrs. Wellington de Boots (Mr. Buckstone and Mrs. Wilkins), the couple incumbered with the superfluous baby, were exceedingly well played by the manager and the relief. The dialogue of the piece was occasionally smart, and the situations were so odd that the motive to laugh was irresistible. We should also mention that Mr. Compton sustained a character named *Icubrook*, but scarcely with his usual felicity. The curtain, however, fell to great applause, and ovations followed, including both author and actors. The piece will run.

STANDARD.—Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams commenced a starring engagement on Monday to a very full house. They were immensely applauded. The pieces were "Ireland as it Was," "Out of Place," and "Barney, the Baron." All three were decidedly prosperous. This engagement is likely to be rich in golden results to the *beneficiaires*.

MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT.—The managers of the Olympic Theatre have made arrangements with Mr. and Mrs. German Reed for producing at that popular little theatre their entertainment during Passion Week. We hear that, with the exception of this one week at the Olympic, and possibly one or two weeks elsewhere, it is not the intention of Mr. and Mrs. Reed to give their entertainment in London this season.

A TROPHY obtained during the late attack on Canton has been placed in the central transept of the Crystal Palace. It consists of a fine bell taken by the British troops from the great temple at Canton, and has been presented to the company by Major Sir C. Von Straubenzee. It weighs about two tons, and its whole surface is painted in various colours, and covered with grotesque figures and inscriptions in the Chinese character. The latter are said to be the composition of the ex-Commissioner Yeh, and are very curious.

We erred, it seems, in stating last week that Mr. Windus thought himself fortunate in obtaining the sums mentioned for his two Turner pictures of the "Dawn of Christianity" and "Glaucus and Sylla," at the sale of a portion of his collection at Christie and Manson's. "On the contrary," writes Mr. Windus, "I beg to say that I bought them in at the ridiculously low prices named, and that they are now hanging in my library at Tottenham. Long may they remain there."

MONUMENTAL SCULPTURE.—The commission for a noble marble monument, consisting of life-size figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity, for erection in Sydney, N.S.W., has just been given to Mr. Edward James Physick, sculptor, Marylebone-road; and likewise two others for erection in Devonshire, one being a chaste naval memorial of the late Lieut. Chichester, R.N.; the other illustrating, in a beautiful design, the lines by Pope, "Hark! they whisper," &c.

COUNTRY COMFORT.—She lived in a grand old manor-house, full of deep bay-windows and dark old panels, gorgeous with carving, set in a beautiful terraced garden, rich in cedars and yews. In the midst of the pleasure lay a pretty lake, peopled with gold fish, and studded with graceful swans. Her handsome but lumbering tub of a coach, drawn by the sleekest and most satin-coated of horses, and driven by the most sober of coachmen, paced in solemn state up the fine elm avenue leading to the house. Lofly pillars on either side of the gate bore the arms of my Lady Crump—namely, gules, on a bend sable between six sebants or, three purses argent. Stately peacocks stepped majestically before the door, spreading their glorious trains in the sunshine, and myriads of doves cooed softly from the dovecot. Acres of gardens stretched away to the south, yielding great harvests of golden fruit. Plenty seemed to breathe in the very air of the house, and corpulence was the rule therein. My lady's waiting gentlewoman was comely and stout, and sailed about in rich sober-tinted silk gowns, gorgeous to behold, followed by the pet lapdog, who could only have earned that title from reposing in the ample lap of Glumdaleitch, for none of mere mortal mould could be by any chance have contained him. The staid butler was so portly, he looked as if he ought to have been moved on castors; and the chaplain was as round and rosy as one of his own apples. The cook, as in duty bound, was the fattest of all—a perfect mountain of solid flesh; and the very maids and scullions were as buxom and plump as partridges fed on wheat. There was a broad smile over the whole face of the house, as it lay basking in the full blaze of the sun, surrounded by great bright hollyhocks and sunflowers, and garlanded with huge red roses "from garret to basement," every window gleaming with sunshine.—*Dickens's "Household Words."*

LITERATURE.

FOUR MONTHS IN ALGERIA; WITH A VISIT TO CARTHAGE. By the Rev. JOSEPH WILLIAMS BLAKESLEY. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.

Thirty years have elapsed since France effected the conquest of Algiers, and her rule now extends along the Mediterranean shores included between Oran and Bona. A great service was rendered to Europe by the destruction of a merciless nest of pirates; and it is to be hoped that in the course of time North Africa, under its new masters, may enjoy the blessings of civilisation. But France has never been successful as a colonist; and, up to the present time, Algeria has proved rather a loss than a gain. Military glory has been acquired; forts have been constructed; some few roads have opened up the country within a short distance from the coast; but agriculture, the real foundation of all wealth, has made insignificant progress. We learn from the Rev. Mr. Blakesley that the number of able-bodied Europeans cultivating the soil throughout the whole of Algeria does not exceed 10,000, and of these the great majority are Spaniards and Maltese; while the army, on the 1st of January, 1857, consisted of 62,865 of all ranks, or about six soldiers for every European producer—a disproportion which of itself shows that the colony cannot be a source of profit. During the Crimean war the culture of cereals increased under the stimulus of high prices; but it is certain to be checked by the reopening of the ports of the Black Sea. In the whole of the Metidja and the neighbourhood of Algiers, which we designate the metropolitan counties, somewhat less than 21,000 British statute acres were sown with cereals, peas included, in 1857. The vine flourishes at Maskara and at Médéah, but capital has not yet been applied to its proper manufacture. Olive-trees grow luxuriantly at Bona and at Mostaganem, but the Arab will not graft them, from superstitious feelings. Mulberry-trees might be rendered very profitable for silk. But in all these pursuits the presence of the European labourer is indispensable. Copper ore is found in the mines of Mouraia, but the yield is trifling, probably on account of limited working. The future of Algeria may be more prosperous, but its natural resources can never be adequately developed under the system hitherto practised.

The author of this volume visited the genial climate of North Africa in search of health, making Algiers his head-quarters, but visiting both the eastern and western provinces. A classical scholar of a high class, he possessed many advantages in the exploration of Roman antiquities. He graphically describes the tactics adopted by General Bourmont in approaching the capital, and pays a just tribute to the talents of Lamoricière and the highmindedness of Cavaignac at a subsequent period of the contest. When the French landed there were no remains of the old Roman town of Icosium, on which Algiers was built; but its foundations were laid bare when the conquerors began to form new streets—mosaic pavements, stone chairs, and fragments of statues were brought to light. The French disgraced their success by plunder and devastation, and the Moorish houses have been replaced by European structures. In some instances the stores of the shopkeeper occupy beautiful courts with marble columns; but the episcopal palace, formerly the residence of the Agha or War Minister, which escaped the spoiler, is the finest specimen in existence of the old Moorish architecture. The dwellings of the old pirates were magnificent, their interiors being elegantly furnished. They were surrounded with arcades with tessellated floors, the stairs and walls of which were covered with encaustic tiles. Beautiful arabesques, rich sofas embroidered with gold and covered with silk hangings, curiously carved tables, essence-boxes of the precious metals, ostrich feathers, and carpets of lion's or panther's skin, the teeth and nails gilt, decorated their sumptuous apartments. The barbarians, as we are pleased to call them, were not ignorant of some of the arts of refinement, and their gardens were as highly ornamented as their houses. Algeria is covered with the tombs of saints and marabouts. The mosques were maintained by endowed funds charged on land and houses.

The first Bishop, M. Dupuch, arrived at Algiers in 1839, and most actively performed his duties, and his example has been nobly followed by his successors. In seven years "he established forty-seven churches and chapels, and forty almshouses, hospitals, prisons, and penitentiaries." Such was his zeal that he spent the whole of his private fortune and contracted debts to the amount of £20,000. When the present Emperor of the French became President of the Republic he investigated all the circumstances which had led to this personal expenditure, and, to his honour, discharged all the obligations of the Bishop, which were rightly viewed as a debt of the French nation. M. Pavy, successor to M. Dupuch, has carried on the good work with unabated vigour, and with judicious tact; and Mr. Blakesley does not hesitate roundly to affirm that, "so far as French power is consolidated in Northern Africa, it is mainly due to the moral influence of the clergy." In fact, every conquered people will hate their conquerors in proportion to the oppression of their rule, and the followers of Islam appreciate charity more than any other religious act. The Orleanist dynasty did not cultivate the arts of conciliation, but even erected a monument to remind the Turks of their subjugation.

"In the Jardin de Marengo," says Mr. Blakesley, "is a colossal bust of the first Emperor Napoleon; and it is to be wished that it were the only monument to his memory in the place. But not far from it is another which violates every dictate of good policy as much as it does every principle of artistic taste. On the top of a column is a half-globe, on the top of which is stuck an iron spear. On the east and west sides of the column are the names of the victories won by the great commander; on the north those of the capitals which he had occupied by a victorious army; while, on the south, an eagle, all beak and claws, hovers over a hat, of the peculiar kind which the Emperor used to wear, from which are suspended the insignia of the Legion of Honour. Under this delicate symbolism, which, as far as its symbolism is concerned, might have been carved by a stonemason's apprentice, are the words, *Il avait rêvé cette conquête*."

Certainly this is a standing insult to the conquered, daily reminding them that they are a fallen people. Perhaps Louis Philippe was jealous that whatever glory attached to the possession of the colony was due to the elder branch of the Bourbons, and so desired to transfer it to any other quarter, since he could not appropriate it to himself; but Mr. Blakesley ascribes it to the wish "to make political capital of old military associations which were imagined to be no longer dangerous." The monument will now remain, and continue to offend the national feelings of the Moors, for the nephew will do nothing to impair the memory of the uncle, to whom he owes nearly all his strength; but, if the Moors continue hostile, France has made firm friends of the Algerine Jews, who were most cruelly treated by the Beys, those tyrants frequently giving up the houses of the Hebrews to plunder to ally sedition among the soldiers.

As in British India, so in Algeria, the most important work is to construct roads from the interior to the coast, without which external trade must remain stagnant. We have already remarked that the culture of the soil is very indifferent, and we may also observe that the attempt to form agricultural colonies and villages has failed ever since the Duke of Rovigo made the first experiment. There has been too much land-jobbing, and too little residence by European proprietors. Mr. Blakesley extended his journey from Algeria to Tunis, and of course visited the ruins of Carthage. He gives a very animated account of the siege and storming of the great capital by Scipio, and some interesting remarks on the modern excavations, for particulars of which we must refer the reader to the volume, which will amply repay a careful perusal.

THE DAY AFTER TO-MORROW; or, Fata Morgana. Edited by WILLIAM DE TYNE, of the Inner Temple. Routledge.

The author of this noteworthy book professes to set before us, at very full length, the opinions of Joshua Mallet, M.P. and Serjeant-at-Law, who, hurrying away from law and politics for a little holiday at his quiet and beautiful lodge among the hills of Northern England, there pours forth to certain dear and choice friends, at the intervals of shooting, over good wine, and at such fitting times, his sentiments on Representation, Aristocracy, Royalty, the Printing-press, the Church, the Law, Foreign Affairs, the Public Service, India, and matters generally. The dramatic fiction would have been almost too slight to be worth preserving, but that a reader always finds a certain relief from the most elevated essayism in being surrounded by images of vitality, and therefore the little touches of humanity at the beginning and end of chapters, especially the introduction of a couple of young people who are in love with one another, and for whom the older ones have constant and affectionate care, are by no means thrown away. Such is the framework of the book. The volume consists of the earnest, if often discursive, utterances of a thoughtful, hopeful man, with a richly-charged memory, and a philosophy of a large and catholic kind.

We may as well say at once that the book is for a reader. We use the word because it was once a good one, but has lost much of its *vis*. There are not so many readers as people imagine. There are thousands on thousands who fancy themselves readers because they buy books and take a pleasure in using them; but unless they do more they are not readers. The author of the present day is skilful in taking some words and making a picture, the whole meaning whereof (the amount is seldom excessive) shall be equally patent to the eye as it runs along his lines with the meaning of the woodcut besides it. Very little more trouble, no more mental discipline, is necessary to take in the entire teaching of the "graphic" paragraph than is needed to comprehend the photographic plate. But the student of neither is, *ex necessitate*, a reader; or, if he is, be the praise his own, for what he brings to bear upon what in no way challenges such study. Well, the book before us cannot be treated



DAVID WILKIE—PAINTED BY HIMSELF.—IN THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.

in this fashion; it is a book to be read, for it is full of thoughts, and the writer has not only shown no desire so to arrange them that they may be leaped over as quickly as possible by a smart purchaser, but has rather placed them in a form not commodious to steepchase students. In a word, if you want to understand the author of this work (and he is quite worth understanding), and to profit by his ample stores of learning, imagery, and illustration, you must please to travel at his pace, and to eschew going on to a second paragraph until you have mastered the first. In the old days this was not thought much to ask of a reader, who, as Professor Sewall says, ought at first to take for granted that if a man writes a book it is because he supposes himself to have something to say which at least demands courteous attention; but, in these days of impatient readers and ignorant critics, a work making such demands, unless it be recommended by a name commanding homage—that is to say, the name of somebody who has had strength and patience to live down the chattering—will have an exceeding good chance of being thrust out of the way.

To analyse four hundred pages of philosophic comment upon the faults and failings of systems and of men, and to reduce to our own definition the treatment which the author would adopt as remedial, is labour from which we should not shrink, if aught were to be gained from it, in expounding the writer's views, and recommending them to consideration. But this process would do the author an injustice, simply because he has deliberately adopted a peculiar form of teaching, a peculiar scaffolding for the arrangement and array of his burning and shining lights, to take away which contrivance would be to destroy his scheme of instruction in favour of one of our own. And the *caput mortuum* which we should thus produce would be in the strongest contrast to the sparkling and exhilarating draught he furnishes. We shall therefore take another course. We will just state that in these *Fata Morgana* will be found a larger mixture of wit and wisdom than has for many a day been presented in a single volume; that the scholar, the philosopher, and the Christian, will here find ample matter for thoughtful meditation; and that even the lighter-minded general reader, if he will only condescend to "keep step," and not be in a greater hurry than his guide, will be both amused and instructed by this book.

The National Review.—It would be difficult to complain of want of variety in the current number of the *National Review*. There are no less than eleven articles, each treating of subjects of an entirely different character. This is a merit in itself; but it also implies another advantage, inasmuch as it guarantees the compression of each article into a reasonable and readable space, avoiding a fault

into which the quarterlies have been gradually falling—namely, giving to every dissertation the extent of a volume rather than that of an essay. Sir Bulwer Lytton, as novelist, philosopher, and poet, has met with, on the whole, exact justice: his philosophy is rated at its true estimate; his poetry is designated "as a putting together skilfully the materials which poets use;" and an elaborate examination of his novels produces the verdict "that he deserves sincere admiration for the zeal and perseverance with which he has devoted himself to his profession of a novel-writer; but he is a warning that no mere mastery of the machinery of art can compensate for a severance from the truths of nature." Reviews after the manner of the quarterlies of "Mommson's History of Rome," translated from the German by George Robertson; "Social Innovators and Reformers," founded on the works of Sargent, Louis Blanc, Kingsley, and Holyoake; "The Present State of Photography," "John Stuart Mill on Liberty," "Morley's Memoirs of Bartholomew Fair," "D'Aguessau and French Jurisprudence," with an infusion of Lord Campbell's lives of Eldon and Mansfield, and "Peasant Life in Russia," follow in pleasant succession. The "True Difficulties of the Italian Question" are stated with some degree of positiveness, and all hope of the settlement of the question by the proposed Congress is still more decidedly expressed. The British public outside of German literature and religion are introduced with a certain minuteness to a Prussian theologian, through the medium of a treatise on "Schleiermacher's Life and Times;" and "The Present Aspects of Parliamentary Reform" are summed up in a declaration against a hasty measure, and the hope that some delay in dealing with the question will be conceded.

The Universal Review.—The second number of this new candidate for public favour is unquestionably an improvement on the first. This is in itself a merit to be appreciated, as it augurs that the organisation on which the future of the review depends has within it the elements of that completeness which can alone ensure stability. We have only space to direct attention to the articles on "Philosophy as an Element of Culture," on "Realistic Novelists," and "Christianity in India;" but we venture to say that the whole number is well worthy of thoughtful consideration. In this addition to our periodical literature there is every mark of careful conduct; and there is every reason in the present number for a prediction that it is destined not merely to an existence, but to a useful and enduring life.

Fraser's Magazine.—The number for this month may be called a good one. Politics enter but sparingly into discussion, the question of Reform being treated only from an abstract point of view in connection with "Austin's Plea for the Constitution." The article entitled "Concerning Two Blisters of Humanity" is evidently written with a purpose; but probably the reader who arrives at its end will sympathise with the closing paragraph of the writer, in which he declares "that he is extremely tired." If this were July instead of the beginning of the London season, the "Hints to Vagabonds" (the word being used in its most primitive sense), which pleasantly invites wandering Englishmen to visit Connemara, and "Excursions in the Eastern Pyrenees," would probably be read with more immediate intention; while the treatment of the recently vexed subject of dining, in the article entitled "Russian Dinners," is of course adapted to the present and to all times. The commencement of a new story by the author of "Guy Livingstone;" the continuation of Mr. Whyte Melville's "Holmby House;" a review of Dr. Brown's "Horse Subversion;" for an explanation of which recondite title reference may be made to the article itself; and a graceful tribute, "In memoriam," to an able and interesting contributor to the magazine, and a very excellent man and pleasant companion, the late Mr. Broderip, make up a very agreeable collection of readable matter.

Titan.—It has never yet been quite clear to our comprehension why a monthly magazine should be called by a title which, when literally explained on the cover, is said to signify "a son of heaven and earth." This little preliminary difficulty got over, and it really is one, the contents will be generally found quite up to the average of the monthlies. This month there is no falling off, and it must be admitted that no charge of sameness can be brought against the list of contents. Perhaps the suggestive article entitled "Marriage under Difficulties," and "A Strange Life," a record of the life of Eliza von Ahlefeldt, the widow of Adolph von Lutzow, the man who led and disciplined with so much skill and success the heterogeneous mass of volunteers who formed the band of Black Riders in Prussia during the War of Liberation against Napoleon, are the most prominent.

"PORTRAIT OF WILKIE." PAINTED BY HIMSELF.

The Portrait of our great domestic painter (in the National Portrait Gallery) is truly characteristic of the simplicity and singleness of mind and purpose which always marked the original, both in his works and in the ordinary relations of life. Looking you honestly in the face, without any attempt at heightening the expression—dressed, neatly but plainly, in every-day attire—the author of "The Rent-day" and "Blindman's Buff" stands before us the very man he looked when his creative genius was in its brightest and healthiest phase. It is curious to compare this self-portrait with that of another great master of the English school, Sir Joshua Reynolds, of which we gave an engraving a fortnight ago. In the one we find a bravura treatment, a straining after effect, which marked more or less all the works of the artist; in the other, a modest adherence to fact in its simplest elements, which equally characterises the best productions of the northern domestic painter.

Our Engraving is of the exact size of the original, which was painted by Wilkie when twenty-nine years of age, just previous to his visit to Paris in 1814. Though probably painted in haste, as an offering of affection to a brother in a distant clime, we admire in it that masterly precision and delicacy of outline for which Wilkie, next to Teniers, was most celebrated. It is slightly painted, however, as appears from the reference made to it in the artist's diary under the date of the 28th of December, 1813. We quote the passage, which includes many interesting references to other works (amongst the rest "The Refusal") :—

December 28, 1813.—Sent off some pictures to my brother in India; viz., a copy of the portraits of my father and mother; a small sketch or copy of part of my picture of "Blind Man's Buff;" a small sketch of "A Bag-piper;" a study of "An Old Woman," made in Leicestershire; and three portraits of Thomas, Helen, and myself. The pictures were all painted very thin, and with merely one coat of colour. The vehicles used were gumtion, but the three last with drying oil and mastic varnish.

This interesting portrait was exhibited at the British Institution in 1842; and was purchased by the trustees of the National Portrait Gallery from the artist's niece, in July, 1858.

JEYPORE.—A correspondent to the *Bombay Standard*, writing of Jeypore, says:—"This is a most magnificent city; certainly the finest I have seen in Asia. Nothing in Constantinople, Damascus, Aleppo, or Cairo can come near it. I had not the slightest idea there was such a place in India. Streets eighty feet wide, with palaces, temples, gilded domes, and porticos. All the fantastic glitter of Hindu architecture meets the eye at every turn. The view at the 'Chowki' is really imposing—indeed, I do not recollect having seen anything like it even in Europe. Everything is in good repair. People seem to be rolling in wealth. Gardens and country palaces dot the surrounding country on all sides; the Rajas—a place called Amba—being of Alhambrian magnificence. Gaudy peacocks spread their golden feathers to the morning sun in every direction; in short, the scene is almost fairy-like." The writer of the letter, having stated that "the amount of game there is perfectly fabulous," proceeds to say—in confirmation it may be supposed of this statement—that he "killed two pigs within half a mile of the camp!"



WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MR. SWAN.—SEE PAGE 348.

THE RAILWAY SUSPENSION-BRIDGE OVER THE NIAGARA RIVER.

THERE are three main arterial lines of railway communicating from New York to the Western States of America—viz., the New York Central, the New York and Erie, and the Pennsylvania Central Railroads. Of these the New York Central, being the northernmost of the three, is continued through Upper Canada by the Great Western Railway, from the Canadian frontier at Niagara to the River St. Clair at Detroit, where the western route to the States of Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois is continued by the Michigan Central Railroad.

The necessity of constructing the Great Western Railway of Canada was felt by the two railway companies on each side of it—viz., the New York Central and the Michigan Central; and by their financial interposition its completion was accomplished, and it was opened five years ago, and has paid respectable dividends to its

shareholders; but, after having served the party purposes and individual profit of local speculators, and thereby increased its cost, the exceptionally advantageous geographical position of the Great Western of Canada became appreciated by English capitalists, and gradually very nearly its entire capital was absorbed in this country, its affairs being now administered by a London board co-operating with a Canadian board of directors and the managing director, Mr. C. J. Brydges.

The eastern frontier of Upper Canada is the Niagara River, flowing along a rocky gorge, and by which the water from the far-famed Falls find their way to Lake Ontario, and thence down the St. Lawrence to the ocean. Hence the suspension-bridge is the connecting railway link between the New York Central and the Great Western of Canada Railways. Seen from near the Falls, about two miles higher up the river, this apparently slender bridge, suspended like a cobweb about 250 feet above the surface of the water, looks little fitted to sustain the weight of a heavy engine and train of some

two hundred passengers; and it cannot be denied but that the passenger thus crossing it for the first time in "the cars" feels a thrilling sensation of dread more than an actual feeling of danger, something like the cold shudder with which one sees an acrobat ascend impossible heights on a tight-rope.

Absolute rigidity was not to be expected from a suspension-bridge; but by the weight of the two floors, strengthened by properly-disposed girders, trusses, and stays, ample stiffness is ensured so as to resist the action of railway trains, or the violence of storms, or even hurricanes; and yet, from its mode of suspension, sufficient flexibility is attained; so that, when loaded with a goods-train covering its whole length, and weighing about 326 tons, the camber of the bridge was depressed ten inches, and on the removal of the load immediately rose to its former level, it is probable that a tubular bridge of iron, like the Conway tube, and of 800 feet span, would deflect nearly to the same extent under the same load. The cables and suspending cords are of steel wire; there are two plat



THE RAILWAY SUSPENSION BRIDGE OVER THE NIAGARA RIVER.

orms or floors; the lower one is used for foot passengers and wheel carriages and horses, and the upper one for railway trains only. The two floors are connected by two trusses of simple construction, so arranged that its resisting action operates both ways, *up* as well as *down*. The railway consists of three gauges—the 4 ft. 3½ in., the 5 ft. 6 in. (which is the Canada gauge), and the 6 ft.—and is supported by timber girders, which serve to distribute the pressure of concentrated loads; and a surprising degree of stiffness has been obtained by the united action of the girders and trusses. There are four suspension cables, each of ten inches diameter, and composed of 3640 wires of small No. 9 gauge, sixty wires forming one square inch of solid section. Each cable is composed of seven strands, containing 520 wires, one of these forming the centre; the six others are placed round it. The length of the upper cables is 1261 feet, and that of the lower 1193 feet. They pass over stone towers, very solidly constructed, and are anchored into the limestone rock on either side that composes the uppermost stratum of the cliffs. On the towers are cast-iron saddles, resting on ten cast-iron rollers, five inches in diameter, placed close together, the object of these rollers being to admit of a slight movement of the saddles whenever the equilibrium between the land and suspension cables is disturbed, either by changes of temperature or by passing trains. The length of the bridge between the towers is 800 feet, and the total length of the entire floor is about that of Vauxhall-bridge. The utmost weight that the Niagara Suspension-bridge could ever be called on to support, including the tension resulting from its own weight, is 2262 tons, to which a strength is opposed of 12,000 tons, or over five times as much, and without counting upon the assistance of the stays. The cost of the bridge and works in relation to it was under £80,000, and the engineer who designed and carried it out was Mr. John A. Roebling, of Trenton, in the State of New York. It was completed and opened for the passage of trains on the 19th of March, 1855.

Mr. Roebling has recently minutely examined and tested the suspension-bridge, and, under date of December 20, 1858, reports that he can conscientiously testify that it has not undergone any change since his visit, nearly two years previously. It is his opinion that the cables have such an abundance of strength, and are so well made and protected, that they can never be affected by the ordinary usage of the bridge. Mr. Stephenson, however, we are bound to admit, has not such a favourable opinion of the structure, and considers that a tubular, and not a suspension, bridge ought to have been erected. To this high opinion it may be added, however, that a tubular bridge would have cost three-quarters of a million or more, and that the suspension-bridge has been constructed for less than £80,000.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

CROXTON PARK witnessed the defeat of Gaspari—a nice, smart horse, of about fifteen two, although the Ring set him at much less—by Mr. Crauford's mare Helia, to which he gave 13lb. She is a very bad one, and was beaten no less than twelve times last year; but the race was "a fluke." The orders to Fordham were to watch Little Agnes; and Helia slipped so far ahead that Gaspari was unable to reach her, and got beaten a neck. Of course, the result is not very Derby-like; but the chestnut will be out again before Epsom; and hence judgment must be withheld. Those who had been saying that he was "as short as a walkingstick" were quite at fault. He is named after a character in a German opera. Zuyder Zee, ridden by Captain Little, won the Granby Handicap; and it seemed a strange thing to see four professional jockeys in a race in which of yore Lord Wilton, Lord Maidstone, Captain White, and almost every great gentleman jock of the day used to sport the silk. The highly-engaged Birdcatcher colt Madrid received 5 lb. and beat Spicebox at Shrewsbury; where The Greek, who has run two dead heats, had his "tug of war" crowned with a win at last; and a very fine three-mile struggle between Tournament and Lifboat for the Queen's Guineas, in which the latter received 10 lb. for his year, ended in favour of the son of Touchstone.

Next week will be a busy one for racing men. York Spring occupies Wednesday and Thursday, and Malton and Epsom follow on Friday. At the former place, Thormanby and Rattlebone, each with 2lb. extra, are in the Zetland Stakes, and also in the Biennial, where the latter receives 3 lb. Out of seventy-two, no less than thirty-eight stand in for the Great Northern Handicap; and among them Shafto, 6 st.; Gladiolus, 5 st. 6 lb.; and Harraton, 4 st. 12 lb. Seven races form the programme at Epsom; and Madame Eglantine, Madrid, Thormanby, and White Rose figure among the thirty-eight in the Two-Year-Old Stakes. Neither the Metropolitan nor City and Suburban Handicaps has created any attention worth speaking of at the Corner. Lifboat, 7 st. 9 lb.; The Greek, 5 st. 3 lb.; Secret Treasure, 5 st. 11 lb.; and Yellow Rose, 4 st. 13 lb., are fairly weighted among the former; and Zitella, 5 st. 10 lb., and The Greek, 5 st. 5 lb., among the latter.

The dam of Ralpho is for sale, and the Rawcliffe sale comes off on Wednesday. Four Cruisers, four Slanes, fourteen Dutchmen, and twelve Newminsters, are among the forty lots. The Newminster's are expected to average a large sum, judging from the tide which set in for him at Doncaster last year. Out of the first nine, Fandango's eight have been bay or brown colts, and the one out of Fandango by Touchstone is said to be the best looking so far. Few breeders give such good names to their stock as Mr. Cookson does; but his ingenuity will be rather taxed in this instance. In fact, we never heard of a foal before whose sire's and dam's names were identical. Grand Master, the five-hundred guinea gem of his sale last year, is said to be pleasing Scott amazingly, and the Malton people compare his going to Attila's. The Gem has given up her Voltigeur subscription, and stays at Fandango's paddocks.

The *Sporting Magazine* for April has a very interesting "photograph," by Argus, of Tom Oliver, the great steeplechase rider, from the time when the village schoolmaster first put him on a donkey. He began by riding light weights for the present Marquis Conyngham, and his first winning race was on General Grosvenor's Icarus. In his maiden steeplechase mount, which was on Columbine, at Finchley, he landed in a ditch two fields from home, and caught such a violent cold that he was speechless for six weeks. Harlequin, The Curate, Greyling, and Jerry, were all winners for him, but since Peter Simple's day he has had comparatively little luck, though his head, hand, and seat are as fine as ever.

Coursing is over at last; and, except perhaps in the New Forest and Dorsetshire, very few packs will hunt next week. Mr. Radclyffe's hounds have had a capital season, and it is quite hoped that he will have kennels in Dorchester and hunt the Cattistock side of it next year. We hear that two huntsmen are not "strong enough for the place;" but there are four or five very good first whips able and willing to go up. Now that the scarlet and the slips are put away, the fishermen are beginning to look up their flies once more, and the yachting and boating men "to look alive." The Universities have their annual boat race from Putney to Mortlake next Friday, instead of Saturday, as the charms of Epsom are not to be weighed in the balance.

SHREWSBURY SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Herbert Stakes.—Brandy Ball, 1. Griffin, 2.
Stewards' Cup.—Misty Morn, 1. Welham, 2.
Longner Hall Stakes.—Madrid, 1. Spicebox, 2.
Great Cleveland Handicap.—The Greek, 1. Lolly Mary colt, 2.
Free Handicap Hurdle Race.—Toddy, 1. Boudicca, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Shropshire Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Misty Morn, 1. Grillage, 2.
Corporation Plate of 5 sovs.—Clemantine, 1. Welham, 2.
Queen's Plate.—Tournament, 1. Lifboat, 2.
Acton Burnel Handicap Plate.—Target, 1. Grillage, 2.
Hawkestone Cup.—Prince of Orange, 1. Broadlands, 2.
Salep Cup.—Griffin, 1. Brandy Ball, 2.
Free Handicap Steeplechase.—Anatis, 1. Theodine, 2.

LUDLOW RACES.—THURSDAY.

Oakley Stakes.—Dreadnought, 1. Daniel O'Rourke c., 2.
Herbert Stakes.—Brandy Ball, 1. Target, 2.
Corporation Plate.—Clemantine, 1. Rip van Winkle, 2.
Ludlow Handicap.—Apollo, 1. Grillage, 2.

LATEST BEATING AT TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY EVENING.

GREAT NORTHERN HANDICAP.—9 to 2 best Haffton (4) 25 to 1 best Defender (6).
METROPOLITAN STAKES.—7 to 1 best Tattersall (6).
CHURCHILL CUP.—100 to 7 best Droughda (4); 100 to 10 best Bell (1).
DERBY.—5 to 1 best Premier Land (6); 100 to 6 best Maud (4); 100 to 35 best Faber (4); 100 to 15 best Premier Land winning the 200 Guineas and Viceroy the Derby (1).

THE FARM.

THERE was nothing of very great moment at the recent meeting of the council of the Royal Agricultural Society, except that their attention has been called to the fact that "mangel-wurzel may be kept good for food in the winter, twelve months after having been stored from the ground." It also seems that Poland is about to form an agricultural society, and has therefore dutifully applied to the parent society in Hanover-square for its advice and guidance in the trial of implements.

The mangel-wurzel seed case at Lincoln Assizes has created immense interest, and never was evidence so conflicting. "In one instance," said two farmers who had used the defendant's seed, "there was a fair average crop; and in the other the crop looked very poor at first, but afterwards the roots grew large." Practice and science were again opposed, as one celebrated chemist sowed twelve of the seeds in prepared ground, and found that only two germinated; while another put a hundred seeds under the microscope, and gave evidence that the germinating principle was quite extinct in twenty-nine, while in fifty or sixty it was defective. The defendants, however, made out a case for themselves strong enough to satisfy the jury, and got the verdict. The result seems likely to be that, taking a lesson from the sad work which has gone on with manures, purchasers will require a warranty from the seedsmen, and they in their turn from the growers. One Gloucester gentleman states his experience, that on laying down sixteen acres to gorse for winter food not more than five per cent of his seed grew.

The leading shorthorn men will be busy next week at the Dublin Show, and take Mr. Wetherell's great sale at Aldborough on the Tuesday afterwards—i.e., April 19. This herd, of which the *Farmers' Magazine* for April, in its novel series of articles entitled "The Herds of Great Britain," gives a very full account, is one of the most important in the kingdom, belonging as it does to the very "Nestor of Shorthorns" in point of age and fine judgment. That renowned trio, Moss Rose, Ayrshire Rose, and Stanley Rose, on whom the agricultural societies have so often pinned the first or second ribbons, are among the plums of the sale, as well as the calf of the same family, Lord Aberdeen. The Lord Mayor calves (of which he is one) will also be a very leading feature; but the sire of them was sold some time ago to Sir Anthony Rothschild. The white bull Statesman, who was second to Fifth Duke of Oxford at Northallerton, and is not perhaps unlikely to be his successor for Royal honours at Warwick, is among the bulls, and so is his brother Stanley, and some very good ones by Lord Scarborough. The sale is held at High Grange Tavern, about seven miles from Richmond, and little further from the head-quarters, Darlington, and is expected to be another edition in point of attendance of those Collings ones at Ketton and Barmpton which brought out shorthorns when the century was young.

Lieut.-Col. Stransham, Commandant of the Woolwich Division of Royal Marines, has distributed to non-commissioned officers and men of the corps 180 medals awarded by the Sultan for service during the Crimean war.

The Queen has appointed E. J. Eyre, Esq., now Lieutenant-Governor of St. Vincent, to be Lieutenant-Governor of Antigua in the absence of the Governor; and William Charles Sargeant, Esq., to be Administrator of the Government of St. Vincent during the absence of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The Post Office authorities have issued a notice calling upon the public to give full and distinct addresses on their letters, and instructing postmasters to return to London all letters imperfectly addressed whenever they have any reasonable doubt for whom such may be intended.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The continued unsettled state of political affairs on the Continent, and the immense shipments of silver to the East, have produced much inactivity in the market for Home Stocks, not that any important change has taken place in prices, but they have, unquestionably, shown a drooping tendency—the leading quotations for the Three per Cents having been 95½. Owing to the abundance of money the Unfounded Debt has been tolerably firm.

As regards the Money Market, we may observe that the demand for discount accommodation has not been very active; nevertheless, the amount of purely commercial paper floated is evidently increasing, and the lowest rate for the best short-dated bills in Lombard-street has been 2½ per cent.

Government have found it necessary to transfer to the Bank of England the second million of Exchequer Bonds falling due in 1862, at 3½ per cent.

By telegraph we learn that the exchange at Calcutta shows a further adverse movement of from 2 to 3 per cent. This movement will, no doubt, stimulate the demand for silver, which metal rules steady at 62½ 62½ per ounce for standard. Amongst the imports of bullion we may notice £242,200 from the West Indies; £300,000 in silver from the Continent and £109,000 from Australia. Several parcels of gold have been withdrawn from the Bank of England for export to the Continent, and the whole of the fresh arrivals will be sent away. The supply of gold now on passage to this country is valued at £1,000,000.

An Imperial Russian ukase has been issued for the loan of £12,000,000, at 3 per cent. No subscriber will be allotted less than £100 or more than £1000 of the debt. Transactions have been done at St. Petersburg at 71. We may remark that this figure may be regarded with some suspicion, especially as it is known that the Russian Government are issuing Bonds of 250 to 100,000 roubles each, bearing interest at 4 per cent.

The next packet for Bombay will carry out a large sum in silver, amongst which will be £350,000 on Government account.

The new India Loan of £7,000,000 is fully expected to be in the market next week.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Copper-miners of England a dividend was declared at the rate of 7½ per cent on the preference shares, and 1 per cent on the original stock.

The directors of the European and Indian Junction Telegraph Company have determined to return 5s. per share to the subscribers, as the Ottoman Government have undertaken to complete the line themselves.

The transactions in English Securities on Monday were only moderate, as follows:—Consols, 95½; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 90; India Debentures, 98½; India Bonds, 14s. prem.; Consols for Account, 95½; Exchequer Bills, 92s. to 95s. prem.; Ditto Bonds, 100 and 97½. On Tuesday prices were a shade easier, with a very inactive market:—Consols were done at 95½; India Debentures, 98; India Bonds, 14s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 92s. to 95s. prem.; Ditto Bonds, 100. There was a slight improvement in the market on Wednesday, and Consols touched 95½; Bank Stock was 224½ and 223 ex div.; the Reduced Three per Cents realised 94½ ex div.; the New Three per Cents 94½ ex div.; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 97½; Long Annuities, 1860, 11-16 ex div.; Ditto, 1855, 17½ ex div.; India Debentures, 97½; and Exchequer Bills, 92s. to 95s. prem. On Thursday Home Stocks were steady, at full quotations:—Consols for Money were 95½; and for the 5th of May, 95½; the Reduced and the New Three per Cents realised 94½; India Bonds, 10s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 92s. to 95s. prem.; Ditto Bonds, 100½; India Stock was 220.

Throughout the week the market for Foreign Securities has been wholly devoid of animation. The fluctuations in prices have been very limited; nevertheless the quotations have had a downward tendency. Brazilian Five per Cents have marked 100 ex div.; Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 1855, 94½; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 81; Mexican Three per Cents, 21½; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 81; Peruvian Three per Cents, 72½ ex div.; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 100½; Saradinian Five per Cents, 81½; Spanish Three per Cents, 45½; Ditto, New Deferred, 30½; Ditto, Committee's Certificates of Coupon, not funded, 5; Turkish Six per Cents, 92½; Turkish Four per Cents, 102½; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 99½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 65½; Dutch Four per Cents, 100½; and Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cent Dollar Bonds, 81. The Scrip of the New Turkish Loan has marked 70.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have changed hands steadily, as follows:—Agra and United Service at 68½; Australasia, 83½ ex div.; British North American, 57; Chartered of India, Australia, and China, 9; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 16; London Chartered of Australia, 23½; London and County, 20½; London Joint-Stock, 32; London and Westminster, 50½; National, 53½; New South Wales, 49; Ottoman, 20½ ex div.; Provincial of Ireland, 70½; Union of Australia, 54½; and Union of London, 24½.

The dealings in Colonial Government Securities have been rather extensive. Canada Six per Cents, January and July, have been done at 115½; Ditto, February and August, 114; New Brunswick Six per Cents, 112½; New South Wales Five per Cents, 187½ to 187½, 103; Ditto, 1858, 103½; and Victoria Six per Cents, 109½ ex div.

Miscellaneous Securities have been very flat. British American Lind Shares have realised 31; Crystal Palace, 1½; Ditto, Preference, 5; Electric Telegraph, 103½; English and Australian Copper, 3; London District Telegraph, 4; National Discount, 4; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 54; Ditto New, 28½; Royal Mail Steam, 62; Grand Junction Canal, 54; Regent's, 10½; East London Waterworks, 124; Grand Junction, 71; Ditto, New, 35.

Comparatively speaking, the Railway Share Market has continued very flat, and in most instances prices have ruled a shade lower than last week. Annexed are the official closing quotations on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Bristol and Exeter, 93; Caleonian, 51½ ex div.; Eastern Counties, 50½; Great Northern, 101½; Great Western, 58½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 94½; London and North-Western, 94½; Ditto Eighties, 63; London and South-Western, 92½; Londonderry and Enniskillen, 7; Midland, 101; North British, 57½ ex div.; North-Eastern—Berwick, 92; Ditto—York, 75½; North Staffordshire, 13½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 34; South Devon, 41; South-Eastern, 70½; Vale of Neath, 64; West End of London and Crystal Palace A, 2½; Ditto, B, 6½.

Lines leased at fixed rentals.—Chester and Holyhead, 49½; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 93; Midland—Bradford Preference Stock, 97.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, £10, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 101½ ex div.; Eastern Counties Extension, Five per Cent, No. 1, 114½; Ditto, No. 2, 114; Great Northern Five per Cent, 117; Ditto, redeemable at Five per Cent, 64; Great Western Five per Cent, redeemable, 100; London and Brighton New Four-and-a-Half per Cent Shares, 2½; Londonderry and Enniskillen, 9; Midland Four-and-a-Half per Cent Stock, 102½; Norfolk Debenture, Five-and-a-Half per Cent Stock, 1847, 103; North British New Five per Cent, 105 ex div.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Six per Cent, second guarantee, 119; Stockton and Darlington, A, Five per Cent, 28½; Ditto, B, Six per Cent, 33½; Waterford and Kilkenny, Six per Cent, 53½.

BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—East Indian, 102½ ex new; Grand Trunk of Canada, 35½; Ditto, Six per Cent Bonds, 93½; Ditto, Six per Cent Debenture, 77½; Ditto, Seven per Cent, 1862, 78; Ditto, 1867, 73; Great Indian Peninsula, 101½; Ditto, New, 3½; Great Western of Canada, 167; Ditto, New, 8½; Ditto, Five-and-a-Half per Cent Bonds, payable 1877, without option, 93½; Madras Five per Cent, 193; Ditto, Third Extension, 9½; Scinde, New, 9½; Punjab, 4½; Indus Steam Flotilla, 9½.

FOREIGN.—Lombardo-Venetian, 9½; Ditto, New, 8½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, April 4.—Although the supply of English wheat in to-day's market was only moderate, the demand for all kinds ruled very inactive, and in some instances prices were a shade lower. In foreign wheat, the show of which was rather extensive, very little was passing, on former terms. Owing to a large influx from abroad, barley moved off heavily, at 1s. 10d. to 2s. per quarter less money. Malt, too, was heavy, and lower to purchase. Good sound oats supported former terms, but inferior foreign qualities gave way 6d. to 1s. per quarter. Beans and peas changed hands steadily, at full currencies; but flour met a dull inquiry, at late rates. The imports generally continue on a liberal scale for the time of year.

April 6.—Fine wheat was taken at full quotations. A1 other kinds of produce met a dull sale at Monday's prices. English.—Wheat, Essex, and Kent, red, 35s. to 44s.; ditto, white, 38s. to 49s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 35s. to 44s.; rye, 30s. to 32s.; grinding barley, 23s. to 28s.; distilling ditto, 25s. to 28s.; malt, 32s. to 40s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 32s. to 41s.; brown ditto, 50s. to 52s.; Kingston and Ware, 52s. to 64s.; Chevalier, 65s. to 68s.; Yorkshire and Lancashire feed oats, 30s. to 34s.; potato ditto, 50s. to 52s.; Youghal and Cork black, 13s. to 23s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 28s.; tick beans, 35s. to 37s.; grey peas, 37s. to 38s.; maple, 42s. to 43s.; white, 39s. to 40s.; bolters, 40s. to 41s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 37s. to 40s.; town household, 33s. to 34s.; country marks, 28s. to 31s. per 80 lb. American flour, 13s. to 23s. per barrel. French ditto, 30s. to 33s. per sack.

Seeds.—The demand for all kinds of seed continues in a very inactive state. Compared with last week, however, very little change has taken place in the quotations.

Linseed, English crushing, 51s. to 55s.; Calcutta, 50s. to 52s.; hempseed, 35s. to 36s. per quarter; coriander, 12s. to 16s. per cwt.; brown mustard seed, 8s. to 11s.; ditto white, 12s. to 15s.; tares, 9s. 6d. to 12s. per bushel; English rapeseed, 68s. to 72s. per quarter. Linseed cakes, English, £10 0s. to £10 10s.; ditto, foreign, £9 10s. to £10 10s.; rape cakes, £5 0s. to £6 0s. per ton; canary, 60s. to 74s. per quarter; red clover seed, 74s. to 80s.; ditto, white, 75s. to 100s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d. to 7d.; of household ditto, 4d. to 6d. per four-pound loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 40s. 8d.; barley, 33s. 10d.; oats, 23s. 4d.; rye, 32s. 2d.; beans, 41s. 4d.; peas, 38s. 2d.

The *Week's Averages*.—Wheat, 40s. 8d.; barley, 34s. 1d.; oats, 23s. 4d.; rye, 32s. 4d.; beans, 41s. 4d.; peas, 40s. 0d.

English Grain sold last Week.—Wheat, 169,393; barley, 41,819; oats, 9708; rye, 67; beans, 3368; peas, 278 quarters.

Wool.—For all kinds the demand continues steady, and prices are well supported. Common second combed is selling at 11½d. per lb. The show of samples is very moderate.

Sugar.—The trade generally may be considered steady, and in some transactions, very fine raw sugars have advanced 6d. per cwt. West India has sold at 42s. to 44s.; Mauritius, 38s. to 47s.; Madras, native, 32s. to 33s.; Bengal, 42s. to 45s. 6d.; and Siam, 40s. to 43s. per cwt. Refined goods move off slowly, at 5½s. to 5½s. per cwt. for common brown lumps.

Coffee.—All descriptions continue in steady request, and prices generally are well supported. The stock is very moderate.

Rice.—We have no change to notice in the value of this article, and the demand is confined to small parcels.

Peanut-oil.—Fine qualities of butter are scarce, and in moderate request, at full prices. Low and stale parcels move off heavily, on easier terms. The bacon market is active, at 2s. to 2s. 6d. per cwt. more money. Prime Waterford is worth 56½ to 61s. per cwt. No change in the value of hams or lard.

Tallow.—Our market is steady, and prices are well supported. F.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 53s. 3d.; for the last three months, 53s. 6d. to 53s. 9d. per cwt.

Oil.—Linseed oil has changed hands at 23s. per ton on the spot. Rape is dull, at £39 to £42 10s.; and olive, £40 10s. to £46. Spirits of turpentine, 42s. to 43s. per cwt.

Spirits.—Rum moves off slowly, at 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. for proof Demerara. In brandy and grain spirits only a moderate business is doing, on former terms. The stock of rum is increasing.

Coal.—Holywell, 13s. 9d.; Wylam, 14s.; Riddell, 13s. 6d.; Braddell's Hetton, 15s. 6d.; Haswell, 17s. 3d.; Hetton, 17s. 3d.; Lambton, 17s. 3d.; South Hetton, 17s. 3d.; Kellow, 16s. 3d. per ton.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 15s. to £4 12s.; clover ditto, £4 to £5 5s.; and straw 21s. per load.

Hops.—All new hops are in good request, at fully the late improvement in the quotations. Yearlings ruled firm; but other kinds are very inactive.

Wool.—There is a fair average business doing in most kinds of English wool, and prices are well supported. In other qualities very little is passing, on former terms.

Potatoes.—The supplies continue good, and the trade generally is heavy, at from 40s. to 105s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market, Thursday, April 7.—Notwithstanding that only a limited supply of beasts was on offer here to-day, the beef trade ruled heavy, at a decline in the quotations, compared with Monday, of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lb. the top figure being 4s. 3d. We had a very dull sale for sheep, the show of which was rather moderate, at 2d. to 4d. per 8lb. less money. The extreme value of Down was 5s. 8d. Prime lambs sold steadily, at full quotations; otherwise the lamb trade was very inactive, at 2d. per 8lb. decline.

We had a slow inquiry for calves; nevertheless, prices were supported. Pigs and milch cows were very dull, and lower to effect sales. Per 8lb. to sink the offer:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Scots, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 2d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; prime coarse-wooled sheep, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 2d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d.; large coarse calves, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 1d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 6d.; large hogs, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 6d.; neat small porkers, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; lambs, 5s. 2d. to 6s. 8d.; suckling calves, 18s. to 21s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 18s. to 20s. each. Total supply: Beasts, 720; cows, 150; sheep and lambs, 5019; calves, 99; pigs, 300. Foreign: Beasts, 70; sheep, 90; calves, 50.

Navvies and Leadmills.—The trade generally is heavy, at dropping prices:—Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 5s. 4d.; lamb, 4s. 8d. to 6s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.; pork, 3s. to 4s. 2d. per 8lb. by the carcass.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1.

BANKRUPTCY.

J. M. HASLAM, Portwood, Stockport, cotton doblender.—T. DRUCE, Weymouth-street, Portland-place, bookseller.—J. H. ALLEN, 20, St. Martin's-lane, butcher.—O. H. BARNARD, 1, CAMP, Chesterfield, boot and shoe maker.—W. BARNES, Udale, Cumberland, miller.—T. HAWKINS, Carmarthen, cattle-dealer.—J. MORGAN, Cardiff, cattle-dealer.—T. HAWWOOD, Homerton, grocer.—J. SHEPHERD, King's Lynn, Norfolk, tile manufacturer.—G. F. RUHL, Crutched Friars, merchant.—T. WOOD, Gravelly-place, Dagenham, road, cowkeeper.—B. L. BARNETT, Gracechurch-street, shipowner.—R. FORD, High-street, Bromley, grocer.—W. ALLEN, 21, St. Mark's-street, Charing-cross, army exchange agent.—H. and J. REDGATE, Nottingham, lace manufacturers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

R. MACKINLAY, Glasgow, day-labourer.—J. STRATHERN, Marlee, Perthshire, farmer.—ISABELLA ALLAN of HAY and J. HAY, Duntibae and Fouldhead, Kirkcubright, farmers.—D. ROBE, Glasgow, victualler.—E. HILL, Dumbarton, boot and shoe maker.—P. McDONALD and CO., Aberdeen, tailors.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

R. CLAYTON, Manchester, leather dealer.—T. SWIFT, Sheffield, grocer.

BANKRUPTCY.

J. H. RAWLL, Leadonhall-street, City, tailor.—W. R. and A. R. SIMS, Fish-street-hill, City, merchants.—J. G. NEWBY, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, pork butcher.—O. H. BARNARD, 1, CAMP, Chesterfield, boot and shoe maker.—W. BARNES, Udale, Cumberland, miller.—T. HAWKINS, Carmarthen, cattle-dealer.—J. MORGAN, Cardiff, cattle-dealer.—T. HAWWOOD, Homerton, grocer.—J. SHEPHERD, King's Lynn, Norfolk, tile manufacturer.—G. F. RUHL, Crutched Friars, merchant.—T. WOOD, Gravelly-place, Dagenham, road, cowkeeper.—B. L. BARNETT, Gracechurch-street, shipowner.—R. FORD, High-street, Bromley, grocer.—W. ALLEN, 21, St. Mark's-street, Charing-cross, army exchange agent.—H. and J. REDGATE, Nottingham, lace manufacturers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

D. LANDALE, jun., and J. LISTER, Strathreddie, and at Durie Colliery, Leven, Fifeshire, and sometime of Redwells, coalmasters.—J. MELVEN, Aberdeen, clothier.—J. K., and J. DUNSMUIR, jun., Bogston, Belch, and at Coal Island, Tyrone, Ireland, coalmasters.—J. C. SANDFORD, Bromley, grocer.—W. ALLEN, 21, St. Mark's-street, Charing-cross, army exchange agent.—G. MIDDLETON, Mansfield, Strathmiglio, Fifeshire, wool merchant.

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REINTERMENT OF JOHN HUNTER'S REMAINS IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

REINTERMENT OF JOHN HUNTER'S REMAINS.

LAST week witnessed a remarkable solemnity—the reinterment of John Hunter's remains in Westminster Abbey. The coffin was quietly removed from the vaults of St. Martin's Church on Saturday evening, the 26th ult., to Westminster Abbey. The coffin was in an excellent state of preservation: it was covered with fine black cloth, and richly studded with gilt nails and ornaments. On it was a brass plate with the family arms, encircled in a rich scroll, with the cypress entwined, and bearing the following inscription:—"John Hunter, Esq., died 16th October, 1793, aged 64 years." Beneath which the college authorities caused another plate to be attached, stating that "These remains were removed from the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields by the Royal College of Surgeons of England, March 28, 1859." The ceremony of reinterment took place on Monday week—the following being the order of the procession:—

The remains in the original coffin, borne on a high bier, followed by the Dean of Westminster (without his robes), and Dr. Baillie, a grand-nephew of Hunter; Lord Ducie, and Dr. Clarke, of Cambridge, as representing the trustees of the Hunterian Museum; Mr. Buckland (a son of the late respected Dean of Westminster, and to whom the profession is indebted for the discovery of the remains); Mr. Owen, the late Hunterian Professor; Dr. Mayo and Mr. Green, the Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons; Mr. South and the Council of the College of Surgeons; the Censors of the College of Physicians; the Master and Wardens of the Apothecaries' Company; and most of the distinguished London and provincial surgeons. Arrived at the grave, the coffin was, without further ceremony, deposited in its final resting-place, where it was inspected by the crowded assembly, among whom were several ladies. The entire arrangements were under the direction of Mr. Burstall, of Hanover-street, Long-acre, and gave great satisfaction.

THE EXPLOSION AT HOUNSLOW POWDER-MILLS.

LAST week we had the painful duty of recording the loss of seven lives by an explosion, on Wednesday, the 30th ult., at Messrs. Curtis and Harvey's powder-mills, at Hounslow. Our Artists have, in the present Number, depicted the scene of this terrible disaster.

The Hounslow powder-mills are, we believe, the oldest establishment of the kind in England. The works are situated in the parish of Twickenham, upon a plot of ground measuring nearly 100 acres in extent, and the various buildings are constructed on the most approved principles for the prevention of accident, embankments and watercourses intersecting the land in every direction, and thick groves of trees being planted between the mills, for the purpose of checking concussion in the event of accident occurring in any one of them. The works include charcoal, saltpetre, and brimstone mills, presshouses, corning or granulating mills, dusting-houses, and other



SCENE OF THE RECENT EXPLOSION IN HOUNSLOW POWDER-MILLS.

departments necessary for the production of powder of various degrees of fineness.

The explosion, though fatal in seven cases, was fortunately confined to a limited portion of the works, only one presshouse and one corning-mill having been destroyed. It is believed the presshouse exploded first, and that the concussion from it fired the corning-mill. Not a vestige remains of either of these buildings. The massive machinery contained in both of them has been scattered by the force of the explosion to a distance of several hundred yards in every direction. The trees which separated these buildings have been either uprooted or their branches destroyed, and a solid earthen embankment, twelve feet high, which had been thrown up between them, is levelled with the ground. The appearance presented by the uprooted and dismembered trees is, according to one correspondent, as though a field of artillery had been fired point blank into an immense plantation.

There were from two hundred to three hundred hands, including men, women, and children, employed on the works at the time the explosion took place; and it seems remarkable, great as the loss of life has been, that it had not been considerably greater.

The inquest on the poor fellows killed by the explosion was resumed on Tuesday from the previous week. After the jury had heard some evidence the inquiry was adjourned to Tuesday, the 19th inst., to enable Professor Faraday and Dr. Thompson to give evidence. During some conversation which took place in the inquest room on Tuesday the Coroner expressed his opinion that Messrs. Curtis and Harvey had acted in a most praiseworthy manner, and had evinced the utmost anxiety to have the fullest investigation as to the cause of the explosion.

It is now nine years since any serious explosion occurred at these works. On that occasion several lives were lost.

On Saturday morning last there was an explosion at Messrs. Hall's powder-mills at Faversham. It was, however, of a trivial nature. The building in which it took place was used in the first process of the manufacture, called a green-charge mill. No one was injured, and the damage to property was slight.

THE INSTITUTION OF THE FINE ARTS.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

AMONGST the landscapes in this collection that by Naish, "Le Croux Harbour, Isle of Sark" (463); is decidedly the most remarkable, and one which will "command attention" from the most listless observer. It bears unquestionable evidence of having been "painted on the spot," and though we Londoners may be startled by its bright and strong colour, and the minute picking out of detail displayed in it, we have no doubt that, seen "on the spot," it would be acknowledged to be very near the truth. The harbour is a little gulf, or bay, sheltered by a wooden jetty, which is boldly projected into the picture, the shade of the latter falling upon the deep blue and remarkably placid water below. The rocky background, the quaint, old-fashioned boats floating at their moorings, the pebbles and shells on the shore—some seen through the shallow waves—are a perfect marvel of imitative art. The effect as a whole is rather glary, but, seen from the other side of the room, this characteristic is subdued in intensity.

Now to pass in review a few other landscapes. "The Reminiscences of an approaching Storm at Hastings" (26), by Walter Williams, is exceedingly spirited and satisfactory in every part. "Morning on the Thames" (23), by G. A. Williams, may be pronounced pleasing. "Gathering Bark" (34), by H. Moore, displays great variety and elaboration of herbage, field flowers, bark, &c.; but, as a whole, wants repose and keeping, the donkey being decidedly in the way. "Thames Barges" (44), and "Haymaking, Banks of the Loden" (45), by E. C. Williams, are pretty landscapes of a widely different class: the cool grey tone of the former is to be commended. W. H. Burnett's two views in Venice (43 and 55) exhibit correct drawing and strongly-marked perspective, but are hard in outline and too intense in colour. "Saintfoin and Clover Field in Flower" (73), by J. S. Raven, contrasts a gorgeous flower-parterre, with a rather cold sky. His "Crops Greene, drawn from ye quicke" (126), is a painful pre-Raphaelite effort, in which minutiae of execution is not concurrent with accuracy. A. Gilbert has two very cred table and agreeable landscapes in the second room, "On the South Coast—the Weather Clearing" (359), and "A Summer Evening" (399). R. H. Lauder's "Head of Loch Long" (364) is a fine poetic landscape, striking us alike by the grand solitude depicted, and the harmonious and effective combination of colours introduced into it.

In genre and figure subjects we must give precedence to Mrs. Murray's highly-interesting group of "Beggars at a Church Door, Rome," of which we give an Engraving. There is something truly Roman—degenerate Roman—in the principal figure, who, tall and well-proportioned, with black curly hair and black expressive eyes, but his wounded feet swathed in bandages, is begging of each passer-by, and pointing to his wife and children, who, but half-clothed, in tattered garments, have no other dependence in this world but the persuasive eloquence of the parental howl. On the other side is a cripple, sprawling on the ground, who appeals to an old dame who is just emerging from church; and behind these are an elegant lady and gentleman, the latter of whom twirls his moustache with complacency. Capitally drawn and admirably coloured, this little picture is one of the most telling in the room.

"A 'Tiresome Child' at a Picnic" (148), by W. H. Fisk, is an amusing domestic comedy, the plot of which is thus told:—

Clara (who has been following them about all the morning) thinks she has found out at last why Captain Osborne and Emily want to go gathering wild flowers such a long way from the rest of the party.

And there they are, the Captain looking unutterables, and Emily looking foolish; whilst Clara, peeping through the bushes, opens her eyes and lifts her hands with astonishment. Far off, the father of Emily appears to have caught sound of the alarm, and is lustily hailing the lovers to return to the party. The artist has bestowed special pains upon the silk dress with trimmings, and the round straw hat, and the shawl, and other equipments of his heroine. Indeed, all the details of the picture are made the most of. There is something touching and effective in Carrick's "Group of Beggars" (261), seen in chiaroscuro, relieved, after a long, dreary day of disappointment, by a charitable passer-by. J. B. Burgess has a pleasant skit at the intellectual enjoyments of the City man "Out of Town." Perched among the mountain wilds of North Wales, the rather elderly gentleman has fallen fast asleep, whilst his young wife is hard at work sketching. On the second screen in the first room we remark a little picture by A. B. Houghton, a young artist we believe, which displays considerable merit, and promises future excellence. It is entitled "A Recruiting Party" (275), and in a very small compass contains a great number of figures, displaying much variety of character, all humorously conceived, and executed with great precision of hand. There are the recruits, all of the vagrant class, and more or less under the influence of beer, marching to what appears to be a railway station, with life and drum before them; and there are the idle mob staring at them, and poking fun at them, as the mob always do to the inchoate defenders of their country. It would be impossible to enumerate the half of these personages with the honours they deserve; but the policeman, the mountebank and his daughter decked out in tawdry finery, the butcher's boy standing up in his cart, and the young gent about town, himself, as we guess, rather out of luck, are especially noticeable. A little too much vulgarity prevails, perhaps, through the picture, but that is a propensity which the artist may learn to curb in future.

ROYAL ACADEMY.—(To the Editor).—Allow me to suggest to the Council in Trafalgar-square, through your columns, the advisability of their adopting the plan pursued at the British Institution and Portland Galleries of putting the prices against each picture in the catalogue; and also, when a painting is sold, placing a card to that effect in the frame. This would save intending purchasers much trouble and disappointment, and greatly facilitate and extend the sale of works exhibited.—PALLET.

On Sunday the cause of the Early-closing Association was advocated in many of the churches and chapels of the metropolis; and on Sunday next (to-morrow) upwards of 200 clergymen and Dissenting ministers of various religious denominations will draw the attention of their congregations to its objects.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

A. J. Woolmer's pretty sentimental style, more particularly his delicate colouring, is pleasingly illustrated in "The Chequered Shade" (43)—a rich verdant avenue, with figures à la Watteau, enjoying the *dolce far niente*. "A Souvenir of Venice" (139) is a simple composition of a pretty woman looking out of window, probably expecting her admirer. "All to Ourselves" (269)—

There is a solitude where none intrude
By the deep sea—

is a rather questionable subject. Three young girls in a cave or grotto by the seaside, as if preparing to bathe;—one is unlacing her stays, another arranging her hair, whilst the third is on the lookout. All that the artist's peculiar vein of colour can do is bestowed upon the draperies, &c.; but the production is, after all, a poor one. "Sweets to the Sweet"—being part of a vintage in Tuscany (329)—is a sketchy group of a mother and child, the colour pale and washy. Mr. Woolmer must not feed us always on whipped syllabubs: this practical age requires something of solidity and purpose.

W. Salter, whose grand historical picture of "Lady Raleigh before James I." we have already noticed, displays his fine taste in colour in "The Rose" (195), a female study, the flesh tints of which are of pearl-like purity. In "Autumn," also, a composition of two figures, with autumn fruits, flowers, &c., he is equally successful.

T. Roberts, besides his touching illustration of the cruel effects of newspaper criticism, has a happy little child study—a young golden-haired girl, sitting on a lonely tomb in a village churchyard, gathering wild flowers, with which she is intently occupied trimming her straw hat (48). The expression of the face is very pleasing, and the handling delicate and irreproachable, saving only in the right hand and arm, which are a little hard.

But, for refinement of character and elegance of treatment, for purity and delicacy of colour, commend us to Baxter's female studies, which we are sorry to find restricted to two on the present occasion—portraits, occupying the artist's other two canvases. What a bonny young creature have we in his "Little Red Riding Hood!" (158), which we have great pleasure in engraving. Her innocent, intelligent, smiling face fears no malignant wolf or evil spirit, as, snugly wrapped up in her neat little "red riding-hood," her basket swinging on her arm, into which, at top of other more important matters, a few hastily-gathered flowers have been crammed, she goes upon her memorable errand, the terrors of which are immortalised in nursery lore. "Highland Mary" (543), by the same artist, is equally distinguished for modest but effective treatment.

Tennant, who is always truthful and successful in the delineation of his native mountain scenery, has his full complement of eight landscapes, of which we commend particularly to notice "Going to the Telegraph Hill, Llandudno, in North Wales" (50), with a fine glimpse of the River Conway and the Penmaenbach mountains in the distance; "Distant View of the Entrance to the Pass of Nant-fracon, North Wales," with striking effect of an approaching storm in the mountain chasm in the background; and "Landscape with Cattle and Figures—Evening" (328).

E. Boddington has two landscapes on the Thames—one, "Near Sonning" (21); the other, "A Summer's Evening near Stratley" (71), displaying much feeling for nature, and painted with a cool transparent effect.

But a marvel of severe painstaking execution is J. P. Pettitt's "Torrent-sculptured Bed of the Conway, North Wales" (87). In the midst of the wild, ragged, iron-grey rocks, the stratification and granulation of which are minutely rendered, has been sculptured a fearful chasm, through which a small inkly stream pursues its sharp course. The whole is so curiously executed as to be comparable only to a work of photography.

J. Syer's "Near Tynemouth" (102), under the influence of a fresh breeze, is a spirited sea view. His "First Snow of the Season on the Conway" (137) exhibits a skilful combination of colours—the white mountain-tops closing in the distance, and in the foreground various shades of green, and some warmer hues; the whole seen in a clear atmosphere.

G. Cole's "Mountain Pastoral" (146) is an ambitious effort. The large canvas is well stocked with cattle, some of them prominently placed in a bold mountain scene, with a stream on the right. But the effort with which all has been elaborated and produced is too apparent; and there is too much glitter for our notions of the poetry of the "pastoral."

H. Ward's "Mountain View, Carnarvonshire" (132), is a finely-harmonised production. A deep cool green is the prevailing hue, most grateful and refreshing to the eye; a few subdued lights breaking in here and there just sufficient to bring out the prominent features of the landscape, and prevent monotony. A single figure of a fisherman, by W. H. Ward, is skilfully introduced.

S. R. Percy is too mechanical, too precise, and too cold to win the heart of the true lover of nature. His contributions this year are "Liya Dinas, North Wales" (156), "The Road to the Farm" (177), and "Near Reigate, Surrey" (589).

Wainwright holds a commanding position in landscape and cattle subjects, and, if the spirit could but move him to a little more variety of composition and treatment, he would speedily rank still higher than he does. "A Heath in Sussex, with Cattle" (103), as far as the cattle go, is all that can be desired; so also the landscape foreground, which is nice and tender in colour; but the sky background is cold and depressing. There is nice harmony, and altogether better effect, in "A Storm on the Hills" (196), the pale blue sky standing in judicious contrast to the warm colour of the sheep and the pale green herbage in the foreground. In the "River Scene—Evening" (281), unexceptionably painted in itself, we have an illustration of the paucity of material, and consequent want of variety, which we have just hinted at as a fault in this artist—viz., the shepherd's dog lying down, and resting his head on his master's red waistcoat, which is an absolute repetition of a passage in No. 103. Whilst upon the subject, let us add that this shepherd's dog has probably become an acknowledged favourite with the Suffolk-street artists; for we find it repeated again in Horton's, in many respects, meritorious picture, "Highland Sheep" (375). Who may have the earliest claim to the animal, and who to the red waistcoat or shawl—it is a shawl in the last-named instance—we cannot pretend to say.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY.—On Saturday afternoon last, as the bell was about to be rung as the signal for closing, her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, with the Princesses Alice and Helena, accompanied by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, entered the new reading-room of the British Museum Library. The presence of the Royal party excited no little interest among the departing readers; and when, after a visit of an hour's duration, her Majesty emerged from the hall, the broad crimson cloth which had been extended from the outer doors over the steps and down to the carriages was closely lined on each side with students, including several ladies, who had been anxiously awaiting their Sovereign's reappearance. Her Majesty, who appeared in excellent health, on re-entering the carriage bowed graciously to the little crowd which had tarried to witness her departure.

"THE MILD WINTER OF 1858-9."—(To the Editor).—It appears that some one has claimed for Mr. Alfred Bird, of Birmingham, "the credit of being the first to propound the theory" that the mild winter of 1858-9 may be explained by "the law of cyclones." But in 1856 I pointed out that the Atlantic cyclones are the greatest disturbers of our regular periodical atmospheric changes, in my "Report on the Relation between Explosions in Coal Mines and Revolving Storms," read at the Glasgow meeting of the British Association; and again, in 1856, in two papers, "On the Causes of Great Inundations," and "On the Balaclava Tempest, and the Mode of Interpreting Barometrical Fluctuations," read at the Cheltenham meeting of that association. More recently, in October last, I expounded fully, and in a popular form, in two papers, "On the Nature and Consequences of British Storms," in *Chambers's Journal*, the very principles of cyclonic interpretation that have just been applied to account for the remarkable mildness of the last winter.—THOMAS DOBSON, B.A., Mathematical and Nautical Master. Royal Naval School, Greenwich Hospital, 5th of April, 1859.

Mr. Power's bronze statue of Daniel Webster, made for some persons in Boston, United States, is said to give general dissatisfaction. One writer says, "It is a terrible-looking thing, having the appearance of a coloured gentleman who has run away from his disconsolate master, and in stolen clothes."

An infant school, with teacher's residence, of beautiful design, has been commenced in the parish of St. Nicholas, Guildford, as a memorial of the affectionate esteem in which the late Mr. Hatchard, of Piccadilly, was held by his family and friends.

ITALY.

(From our Correspondent.)

FLORENCE, March 26.

"The nearer the church"—says the adage, and the maxim has a very wide acceptance, and a very wide application. . . . If you desire to have fish every day on your table, take up your residence in some town far inland; and, by the converse of the proposition, never hope to hear a note of good music in Italy. Of all the countries in Europe there is not one where the opera is so hopelessly, deplorably bad!

During the Carnival you are always told "What signifies the badness of the theatres? people only go to talk, and look at the ballet." Assuredly the actors and singers sustained the theory. They gave the *Barbiere* here with a *Figaro* who might easily have changed parts with *Don Bartolo*, and a *Rosina* who must have sung the part on the very first season the opera was brought out. If there were such provisions in dramatic life as superannuation salaries, there was not one on the stage, from Count *Almaviva* himself to *Don Basilio*, whose claim could have been disallowed.

Now we are in the "Quarosima," and everything is worse even again; for during Lent the ballet is forbidden, and we have the same operas and the same ancient incapables!

A stranger entering the theatre would be naturally struck by the empty benches and deserted boxes, and ask how could any management possibly derive profit from an enterprise so carried out? The explanation is this. The *impresario* has little or no concern with the boxes, which are for the most part private property, his chief dependence being on the subsidy accorded by the Government; and as this sum (a very considerable one) is bestowed without the slightest regard to merit or desert, by a species of council appointed specially to watch over the interests of the public, and see that they are efficiently served, the consequence is, the sole interest of the manager is to have the entertainment as cheap as he can. Hence we have tenors with a quinsy, and ballet-dancers with the rheumatism. Nothing is too old, too stupid, or too decrepit to produce; no dresses too ragged, no stage-decorations too squalid! The theme would be one too insignificant to bring under your notice if it did not typify, as it does, the whole character of administrative rule here, the utter dishonesty and want of all conscience being such as to make even the most sanguine disposed to despair of a country so shamefully served.

That the administration of the law must be bad, it is only necessary to state that the Judges are selected from those who are failures at the Bar, and that the salaries are mere pittance. The consequences are gross ignorance and gross corruption. A system of appeals, too, exists by which a case may be protracted for years and years; and, even where an adverse decision is certain, a final judgment can be staved off indefinitely, if the purse of the applicant be only strong enough.

"Beaks" law is not either very enlightened or very pure amongst ourselves, but here it transcends all our home experiences. It, however, possesses certain fixed and immutable principles, which, as one is sure to learn them after a short residence in the country, save a world of trouble, and rescue one from the indulgence of many a vain hope. One of these is, that the stranger is generally wrong; but if he be English he is always wrong. Now, much has been said and written on the aggressive spirit manifested by our countrymen wherever they go—of that general belief that actuates them that the "confounded foreigner" has to be taught a vast number of civilised usages familiar to us at home, amongst which occasionally figures the English language itself; and assuredly there is no denying that there is ample cause and subject for this reproach. The travelling *Civis Romanus* is the most obtrusive, self-opinionated, and impertinent "bore" the world presents. But an Englishman long acquainted with the Continent, speaking its languages and knowing its peoples, is usually courteous and compliant, deferential to usages that are respected by others, and submissive to laws and regulations of whose policy or wisdom he may have his doubts. It is somewhat hard to class him in the category of his less-experienced brethren. But this is exactly what Tuscan justice does, and he is invariably condemned on the evidence of his passport! The allegation of the meanest creature that sweeps a crossing would be received as better testimony than his, and the oath of the servant who had been shown to have robbed him accepted as good evidence in a charge to extort more money.

Much of the sympathy with which Englishmen arrive here for the cause of Italy oozes out on becoming more intimately acquainted with the national character in which distrust so prevails. Now, there is not any trait more inimical to the working of a Liberal Government than distrust. Without a due reliance on the honour and good faith of public men the machinery of all representative government is at an end; and it is to be feared that the time is not come when this confidence would be accorded to any Italian statesman.

If I have been led away to talk of these things it is that I may escape speculating on the war question, although I have not hesitated from the first to own to you that I have always deemed it the most probable issue of the present complication. This, too, is the opinion of Salvagnoli, the eloquent leader of the Florentine Bar, and whose late pamphlet on Italian independence is in every one's hands here. By the way, it is a curious blunder of the English press to suppose from the mere fact of the unrestricted publication of this brochure that its tone must necessarily be Austrian. In giving this opinion they exhibit a very slight degree of knowledge of this country and its habitual tactics. The fact is that at this moment a far greater license is permitted to popular feeling, and greater concessions made to public sympathy, than since the memorable year of 1848.

At no time since that year had this same pamphlet of M. Salvagnoli been permitted to appear, many of the sentiments being not confined to strictures on Austrian rule, but severe and even insulting animadversions on the Government of Tuscany. If you ask an Italian to explain the supineness or the liberalism of the Ministry on this occasion, he will, with characteristic suspicion, assure you that it is only a snare to induce men to compromise themselves, so that, when this country shall declare herself an ally of Austria, Salvagnoli, and such men, may at once be amenable to the law. My own opinion is, however, different. I sincerely believe that this Government has as yet taken no side, and would rather, if permitted, remain neutral altogether. With this view, they would for peace sake admit of a great deal of popular writing and talking, demonstrations in the streets, and very boisterous singing in the cafés. And unquestionably, seeing the nature of the people, and how likely this patriotism would be to feel satisfied with such indulgences, this policy is not a bad one.

There is another pamphlet also just out, written by the Marquis Laiteco, brother of the Prince Corsini, formerly Minister for Foreign Affairs here. In this the patriotic ardour soars far and away above that of the jurist. The Marquis even invokes the Grand Duke to send his son to the Piedmontese army, and to take the field at the head of young Italy. Though urged with considerable eloquence, and not devoid of a certain show of plausibility, in so far as the effect upon the young men of rank and station, it is very doubtful whether his Royal Highness will accede to the petition, the more so, according to some reports, the Court here has already made preparations for taking refuge at Vienna—when the war has broken out.

If popular feeling—as exhibited by swarms of ragged fellows singing vociferously about the streets—means anything, this country is thirsting for Austrian blood. . . . Indeed, wherever an Austrian army of occupation has ever been stationed, certain practices with the stick have left such a sentiment behind them as will make the very name of that empire detestable for many a year.

Not that the most inveterate hater of Austria could allege that the soldiery was ever otherwise than well disciplined and well conducted; but martial law, under even the mildest form, is a very stern form of justice, and a very summary one too. One thing is quite clear: the popular hate towards Austria is entirely owing to the having seen and witnessed "armed occupation." But for this the dislike would have been a vague, undefined sentiment towards an enemy they had only heard of. If, therefore, Italian patriotism has assumed a uniformity in this respect, it is entirely the fault of that Imperial Government who, in coming to the aid of Princes, totally ignored the fact that there was such a thing as a People. There is thus in Despotism a Nemesis that never fails to exact its penalty.

TRANSATLANTIC SKETCHES.

THE ST. LAWRENCE: FROM MONTREAL TO QUEBEC.

FORSAKING the Grand Trunk Railway for the beautiful scenery of the St. Lawrence—most magnificent of all the rivers of North America—and having engaged our state rooms on board the steamer *Napoleon*, we—that is, myself and travelling companion, who, on this occasion, was one of the princely merchants of Montreal—left that city for Quebec on a lovely afternoon in early May. In compliment to the French Canadians, or *habitans*, whose sympathies with France are not yet utterly extinct, one of the two principal vessels on this line has been named the *Napoleon* after the Emperor of the French. The other, in compliment to their liege lady and mistress—under whose mild and beneficent sway they enjoy an infinitely greater amount of freedom than could ever have fallen to their lot under the domination of their mother country, which, continually changing its form of government, from a limited Monarchy to a limited Republicanism, and finally to an unlimited Despotism, has always escaped what it most desired, a rational and well-defined liberty—has been named the *Victoria*. The *Napoleon*, on which we steamed, was an admirable boat; and there being neither snags nor sawyers in the St. Lawrence, nor a reckless captain, and a still more reckless negro crew to work her, we had no such fears for our safety as those who travel on the Mississippi, the Alabama, or the Ohio, must always entertain, more or less. From six o'clock, when we embarked, until midnight, when we turned into our berths, the time passed both pleasantly and profitably, for my companion knew all the intricacies, all the history, and all the beauty of the St. Lawrence, and had done more by his single energy to improve its navigation, deepen its shallows, and make it the first commercial river of the continent, than any other man in America. As we left Montreal, the tin-covered domes, steeples, and roofs of its cathedrals, churches, convents, and monasteries gleamed brightly in the rays of the setting sun; and when evening fell, as if by one stroke, upon the landscape, without the intervention of that lingering twilight to which Englishmen are accustomed at home, the whole firmament was suddenly irradiated by the coruscations of the Aurora Borealis. It was so vivid in its brightness, and so rapidly changeful in its hues from green to red, amber, and purple, and back again through the whole gamut of colour, that the scenery of the river was for a while eclipsed by the grander scenery of the skies. By that glorious light our voyage down the St. Lawrence became a kind of triumphal procession in which the heavens as well as the earth and the waters seemed to bear their part.

The Canadians on board paid no particular attention to the magnificence of the spectacle, which was doubtless too familiar to their eyes to excite the wonder and delight which it created in mine, that had never, in the more watery clime of England, beheld such splendour. It seemed as if the banners of Eternity were waved in the clear, blue firmament by angelic hands, and as if aerial hosts of seraphim and cherubim were doing battle in some great undefinable cause of Liberty and Right. Or perhaps—for Imagination was unusually vagrant at the time, and roamed whither it pleased—these electric ebullitions were but the tentacles of the great Earth-Monster floating in the Ocean of Space, as the medusæ float in the clear waters of the Western Seas. Nay, might they not be the respirations of that sublime Mother and Bona Dea upon whose epidermis man is but an insect, and his proudest works but the scraping and piling up of the exudations of her cuticle?

But after a time (for admiration, however great, requires novelty to feed upon) this sublime spectacle did not take such entire possession of the mind as to shut out altogether that of the majestic river on whose bosom we floated, nor cause us to forget that its never changing current, rolling rapidly to the sea, was the drainage of the larger portion of a Continent. The river, which is from a mile and a half to two miles wide, is studded with many islands, some of them large and fertile. At every three leagues, on either shore, in a prominent position, to be easily seen of all who pass up or down the river, is built a church, of the well-known style of architecture so familiar to all who have ever travelled in France, the only difference being the invariable tin spire, or dome, which gives such peculiar picturesqueness to the ecclesiastical buildings of Canada. These churches indicate the religious zeal and piety of the French Roman Catholic colonists of early times, who made the most ample provision for the religion of the people when they first took possession of the country. They called it New France, and endowed the Church with broad lands and ample revenues, upon the model and example of the Church in Old France, ere the ploughshare of the Revolution passed over the land, half-burying the Church and wholly burying the Aristocracy. The farms of the *habitans*, and their neat white houses, are thickly strewn on both banks of the river; and the lights from the windows, shining in the darkness as we journeyed rapidly by, conveyed the idea that we were passing through a densely-peopled and highly prosperous country—an idea far different from that which takes possession of the traveller on the Mississippi, who by night or by day sees more frequent signs of the rude, untrodden wilderness, and the dismal swamp, than of the abodes of free men, and the haunts of an active commerce.

As regards the St. Lawrence itself, familiarity with it breeds no contempt. On the contrary, the more it is known the more it is admired. Without exaggeration, it may be called the chief and prince of all the rivers of the world. If it be presumed that its real sources are to be sought in the multitudinous, and often nameless, streams that rise in the wildernesses of the Far West, and that have poured the rainfall and the thaws of thousands of years into the three great hollows which form the Lakes of Superior, Michigan, and Huron, we shall find the true commencement of the St. Lawrence at the place where the combined waters of these inland seas force their passage to the lower levels of Eastern Canada on their way to the sea. This is at Sarnia, in Canada West, at the southern extremity of Lake Huron. The stream at this point is called the St. Clair River. After running a course of about forty miles under this name, it discharges itself into the small Lake of St. Clair; whence, again seeking an outlet, it takes the alias of the Detroit River. Running for about twenty-five miles further, it fills up another great hollow in the earth and forms a fourth inland sea, called Lake Erie, 18 fathoms deep and 564 feet above the level of the ocean. At the eastern extremity of this lake the overflow, hastening ever onwards to the Atlantic, finds a channel which is called the Niagara. The stream, flowing swiftly but equably for fifteen miles, froths up suddenly into the Rapids as it approaches the celebrated Falls, and thence dashes itself in foam and spray into the noblest cataract in the world. After its precipitous descent of 160 feet, it rushes for three miles so furiously that at one part of the narrow channel, a little below the Suspension Bridge, the middle of the stream is ten feet higher than its two sides—a veritable mountain of waters. Growing calmer as it runs, and as the channel widens, it discharges itself into a fifth great hollow, [which it fills, and thus forms Lake Ontario,

It is only at its outlet from this magnificent sheet of water, which is 100 fathoms deep and 235 feet above the level of the sea, that it receives at the "Thousand Isles" the name of the St. Lawrence, by which it is known in all its future course of 750 miles. Including the chain of lakes by which it is fed, the course of the St. Lawrence is upwards of 2500 miles. Its chief affluents, besides the myriad streams that originally form the gigantic bulk of Lake Superior, are the Genessee, which falls into Lake Ontario; the Ottawa, which mingles with it to the south-west of Montreal; and the Saguenay, a deep, dark river, with high precipitous banks, which unites with it below Quebec. The Lakes, the Rapids, the Falls, and the Islands of the St. Lawrence add to the multifariousness of its attractions, and render it immeasurably superior to the Mississippi, the Missouri, or any other river of North America for grandeur and beauty. Indeed, there is no aspect under which a river may be regarded in which the St. Lawrence is not pre-eminent. But, like everything else in the world, it has its imperfections. In the first place, it is liable to be closed for half the year by the ice. A disadvantage such as this man's energy and skill are, unfortunately, not able to remedy. Its remediable defects commence at the extremity of Lake Erie, where it overflows into Lake Ontario, to the lower level of its future course. The Falls of Niagara, which render it so beautiful in the eyes of the lover of Nature, give it no charm in those of the merchant who sees his way to a profitable trade in agricultural produce with the great corn and wheat growing States of the American Union that border upon the inland seas of the West. But this commercial defect has been partially remedied. The Welland Canal, twenty-eight miles in length, has been constructed; and through its narrow channel a corn-laden vessel from Chicago has already made the whole voyage from that city to our English Liverpool without transshipment of cargo. For vessels of 400 tons the Falls of Niagara are virtually non-existent. The question remains, and will speedily have to be decided, whether they cannot be rendered non-existent, commercially, for vessels of 1000 tons burden and upwards. The solution of this question is the deepening and widening of the Welland Canal—a costly work no doubt, but one which must be accomplished if Canada is to derive all her rightful advantages from her admirable geographical position, or to hold up her head on an equality with the United States. The cost will be large, but will be met either by private enterprise or by Government encouragement, unless the whole trade of this vast region, seeking its mart in Europe, is to be permitted to pass over the Erie Canal and through the United States, instead of through Canada and the St. Lawrence, its natural outlets.

The next obstruction to the navigation occurs at Dickenson's Landing, one hundred and twenty miles beyond Kingston and the Thousand Isles, at the first Rapids. The beauty and grandeur of these and the whole series of Rapids between the Thousand Isles and Montreal will be more particularly described hereafter. At this place the Rapids run for nearly twelve miles; and the difficulties they place in the way of the up-stream navigation have been surmounted by a canal from Dickenson's Landing to Cornwall, at the head of an outspreading of the river called Lake St. Francis. The next interruption occurs at the Rapids between Lake St. Francis and Lake St. Louis, to surmount which has been constructed the Beauharnois canal. From this point to the third and last series of Rapids at Lachine, within nine miles of Montreal, no difficulty occurs. The Lachine Canal admits vessels of a burden much greater than the Welland Canal can accommodate. The remaining obstruction to the navigation arises from a totally different cause, the shallowness of the river, where it widens out to the Lake St. Peter. This lake, which in one place is nearly fifteen miles broad, acted, until the works for its improvement were undertaken, as an effectual bar to the direct ocean commerce of Montreal, except by transshipment. In the year 1843 the Canadian Government commenced the construction of a ship canal through the centre of the shallows. The work was continued until 1847, when it was temporarily abandoned. In 1850 the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, impressed with the importance of the work, applied to the Government for authority to complete it. The power was granted, and the necessary legislative provision made for the cost and maintenance of the improvements. In five years the channel throughout the whole length of the lake was deepened five feet; and in the summer of 1853 a depth of seven feet greater than the original bed of the lake had been attained. "The magnitude of the work," says the Hon. John Young, on behalf of the Montreal Harbour Commissioners, "will be seen when it is considered that the deepening extends over a distance of eighty miles; that dredging has actually been done over twenty-four miles, the width of the channel dredged being nowhere less than three hundred feet; and that about 4,250,000 cubic yards of excavation have been removed from the bed of the lake and river, and carried off and dropped at distances averaging more than a mile." The object of all these works is to afford free egress from and ingress to the St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario, and the great lakes of the West, to vessels drawing twenty feet of water—a work which, when accomplished, will not only divert from New York a vast amount of trade that now finds its way thither, but which will largely aid in developing the resources of Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Canada West, and the yet almost desert and untrodden regions of the Red River and the Saskatchewan.

But how to avoid or overcome the impediments to trade and navigation caused by the climate, and the imprisonment of the great current of the river under the ice of an almost Siberian winter? That difficulty is not to be entirely conquered. There is no remedy that man can apply. But the difficulty does not affect the St. Lawrence alone, for it extends even to the Hudson River and to Lake Champlain, which are nearly, if not entirely, valueless to commerce, during the greater part of the winter and early spring.

But even here the same far-sighted wisdom which has been the cause of such improvements in the St. Lawrence—improvements advocated and carried on amid every kind of discouragement and difficulty—has seen the opportunity of aiding in the development of the country. The Hudson and Lake Champlain are less affected by the frosts than the St. Lawrence. From Caughnawaga, nine miles west of Montreal, and nearly opposite to Lachine, to the northern extremity of Lake Champlain, is a distance of no more than twenty miles. A corn-laden vessel from the rich lands around Lake Superior, if prevented by the severity of the winter from proceeding beyond Montreal, might have the chances to a later period of the year of sailing down Lake Champlain, and thence to the Hudson and to the ocean, provided there were a ship canal from Caughnawaga to Rouse's Point. The State of New York—wise enough to see not only the importance of connecting the Hudson with Lake Erie by means of the Erie Canal, but with Lake Champlain—constructed a canal some years ago effecting the junction at the southern end of the lake. This canal is sixty-five miles in length, but only admits vessels of eighty tons. But the link between Caughnawaga and the northern extremity of the lake, in British territory, would more effectually unite the St. Lawrence,

and consequently Lake Ontario, with the Hudson. This project has been put prominently forward by Mr. Young, and, there being no engineering impediments, the only real objection raised against it is the expense. But this objection will disappear; and, it is all the more important that it should, not only for the sake of the trade of the St. Lawrence, but for that of all Canada—deprived by geographical circumstances of the Erie Canal—and, by the easy, good-natured ignorance of the late Lord Ashburton, of the harbours in the territory of Maine, which, by every consideration of geography, trade, politics, and natural right, ought to have belonged to it.

How necessary it is for Canada and the friends of Canada to stir in all matters relating to the improvement of the St. Lawrence and to the harbour of Montreal may be understood by the instructions to Messrs. Childe, M'Alpine, and Kirkwood, the civil engineers appointed by the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal to examine and report on the subject:—"Although the magnificent canals on the St. Lawrence are in perfect order, and have been in operation since 1849, with a system of railways also in operation for two years, running from Quebec, and connecting with all points south and west, yet, up to the close of 1850, the St. Lawrence route had only succeeded in attracting fifteen per cent of the Western Canadian and Western United States' trade, eighty-five per cent of that trade passing through the Erie Canal and over the railways of the State of New York."

All these matters, and many others, I studied that night upon the St. Lawrence. At seven in the morning, with a clear bright sky above us, we arrived within sight of Cape Diamond and the imposing fortifications of Quebec. By half-past seven we had passed Wolfe's Landing and the Heights of Abraham, where the battle was fought that decided the fortunes of America; and at eight were safely landed in the quaintest and most remarkable city of the New World—picturesque as Edinburgh and strong as Gibraltar—the loss of which deprived France of Canada, and the gain of which largely helped to deprive Great Britain of the United States. But these important topics must be reserved for a future communication. C. M.

PRESENTS FOR AFRICAN KINGS.

THE Fetish Staff sketched herewith is intended as a present for Docemo, the present King of Lagos. It is still used in the State ceremonies of the African chiefs, and is in form like an Indian paddle, or a gigantic fishlice, and is nearly three feet in length. Docemo, the King of Lagos,

is a man of about thirty-three years of age, who already enjoys an income derived from legitimate commerce amounting to £2000 a year.

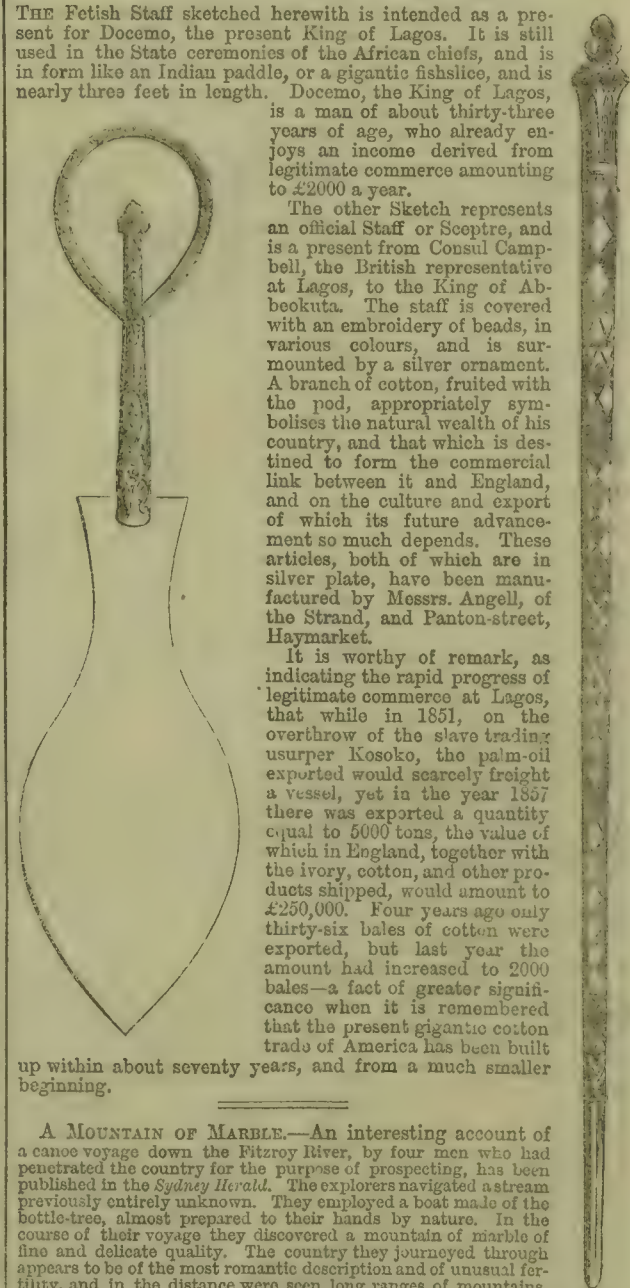
The other Sketch represents an official Staff or Sceptre, and is a present from Consul Campbell, the British representative at Lagos, to the King of Abeokuta. The staff is covered with an embroidery of beads, in various colours, and is surmounted by a silver ornament. A branch of cotton, fruited with the pod, appropriately symbolises the natural wealth of his country, and that which is destined to form the commercial link between it and England, and on the culture and export of which its future advancement so much depends. These articles, both of which are in silver plate, have been manufactured by Messrs. Angell, of the Strand, and Pantons-street, Haymarket.

It is worthy of remark, as indicating the rapid progress of legitimate commerce at Lagos, that while in 1851, on the overthrow of the slave trading usurper Kosoko, the palm-oil exported would scarcely freight a vessel, yet in the year 1857 there was exported a quantity equal to 5000 tons, the value of which in England, together with the ivory, cotton, and other products shipped, would amount to £250,000. Four years ago only thirty-six bales of cotton were exported, but last year the amount had increased to 2000 bales—a fact of greater significance when it is remembered that the present gigantic cotton trade of America has been built up within about seventy years, and from a much smaller beginning.

A MOUNTAIN OF MARBLE.—An interesting account of a canoe voyage down the Fitzroy River, by four men who had penetrated the country for the purpose of prospecting, has been published in the *Sydney Herald*. The explorers navigated a stream previously entirely unknown. They employed a boat made of the bottle-tree, almost prepared to their hands by nature. In the course of their voyage they discovered a mountain of marble of fine and delicate quality. The country they journeyed through appears to be of the most romantic description and of unusual fertility, and in the distance were seen long ranges of mountains, towering in terraces one above the other, the higher summits being covered with apparently perpetual snow. Indications were found of very extensive gold deposits, though in quantities too small to be profitably worked. The following is the passage of the narrative descriptive of the mountain of marble:—"On the 8th of December we came early in the day to a white mountain, which we at first took to be a quartz hill. We, therefore, landed and examined it, but on closer inspection found it to be of white marble, that was everywhere broken and scattered about on the surface, until the hill looked, at a short distance, as if covered with snow. The marble was exceedingly white and delicate, without veins of any kind through it, so far as we could see from the surface indications. We had no time to make further examinations, for our provisions were all but gone, and we had to hurry on to some quarter where a fresh supply was obtainable. We, however, ascended to the top of the hill, and there, stretching away to the westward, we could see the mountains to a distance of forty miles, lifting up their heads into the clouds, and clad in a robe as white as that worn by the Alps in winter time. We imagined these mountains to be about 150 miles from Rockhampton."

DIVISIONS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—(To the Editor.)—The largest number of members of the House of Commons ever present in one division was on the occasion of the fall of the Melbourne Ministry in August, 1841, after the general election in that year. Mr. S. Wortley's amendment on the Address was carried by 260 to 260; and, consequently, with the tellers and Speaker, there were 531 members. The next largest division occurred on Sir R. Peel's vote of want of confidence in June, 1841, just previous to the election: the motion was carried by 312 to 311, which therefore makes 623 members, Speaker and tellers included. Six hundred and twenty-six members were in the House when Mr. Abercromby was elected Speaker, a number identical with that which took part in the division on Thursday evening last.—J. K. S., Bath, April 4.

The Dean and Chapter of Durham have accepted a tender for the restoration of the central tower of the Cathedral. It is intended to recase the whole of the tower, down to what is termed the "bellringers' walk," and the buttresses are to be restored for twenty feet lower. The architecture will, in all essential particulars, be the same as at present.





1. Knightsbridge Inn. 2. Site of the Exhibition 1851. 3. Serpentine River. Hyde Park. 4. Kensington Road. 5. South Kensington Museum. 6. The Observatory. 7. Trinity Church. 8. Hospital for Consumption. 9. Palace of Westminster. 10. House of Commons. 11. King's Road Church. 12. St. Luke's Church. 13. Convent of the Sisters of Mercy. 14. St. James's Church. 15. St. James's Park. 16. St. James's Palace. 17. Chelsea Church. 18. Chelsea Palace. 19. Chelsea Park. 20. Chelsea Church. 21. Chelsea Palace. 22. Chelsea Park. 23. Chelsea Church. 24. Chelsea Palace. 25. Chelsea Park. 26. Chelsea Church. 27. Chelsea Palace. 28. Chelsea Park. 29. Chelsea Church. 30. Chelsea Palace. 31. Chelsea Park. 32. Chelsea Church. 33. Chelsea Palace. 34. Chelsea Park. 35. Chelsea Church. 36. Chelsea Palace. 37. Chelsea Park. 38. Chelsea Church. 39. Chelsea Palace. 40. Chelsea Park. 41. Chelsea Church. 42. Chelsea Palace. 43. Chelsea Park. 44. Chelsea Church. 45. Chelsea Palace. 46. Chelsea Park. 47. Chelsea Church. 48. Chelsea Palace. 49. Chelsea Park. 50. Chelsea Church. 51. Chelsea Palace. 52. Chelsea Park. 53. Chelsea Church. 54. Chelsea Palace. 55. Chelsea Park. 56. Chelsea Church. 57. Chelsea Palace. 58. Chelsea Park.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

Was it an elaborate jest on the part of the Leader of the House of Commons that the division against his Ministry should be taken in the first hours of the first of April? Was it intended to make a *poisson d'Avril* (the French phrase is more polite than the English one) of Lord John Russell? However that may be, it is quite certain that the noble Lord is not yet master of the situation. It is a curious study to watch the effect of the word "dissolution" on the House of Commons. Comparisons might be made of all sorts of spells which have paralysed raging opponents into crouching obedience. It is only necessary to hint at the effects produced by Gorgon, by Astolph's magic lance, or Ruggiero's mystic shield, in order to give an idea of the transformation of that tumultuous crowd of six hundred and twenty-five members of Parliament of Friday morning into the tame, lack-lustre crowd that on Monday slunk quietly out of the House when the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a speech so courteous and bland as to sound like mocking irony, told them that he was about to turn them adrift on the constituencies. When that potent prerogative of the Crown is hurled at the Parliament the boldest hold their breath and the timid collapse into ludicrous insignificance. No more notes of defiance; no more offers of insulting forbearance; no more taunts at the Treasury bench. The firm ground of the House of Commons is cut from beneath the member's feet, and his only thought is how he is to maintain his footing on that fraillest and most uncertain of structures—the hustings. As we are about to part with the short-lived Parliament of 1887, it may be said that nothing in its life became it so well as its leaving it. A better-sustained or a more interesting debate has probably not occurred since 1846. Even the small hours which Parliamentary habit has devoted to dulness and platitudes and the weary nods of the Speaker have been enlivened by the development of several hitherto unheard-of speechmakers, who proved that the ruck of memberdom, if an inert, is not necessarily a rude and uncultivated, mass. Although—from a necessity which is not to be overcome—somewhat late, a word or two on that last night's debate may be allowed here. It is doubtless a question with those (and they are not a few) who hope for amusement from our representative assembly whether they would rather have Mr. Bernal Osborne or Sir Robert Peel ("old Sir Robert's son"). On the whole, we should say the eccentric Baronet is to be preferred. His oddities of expression seem more spontaneous, and smack less of preparation, than the so-called impromptus of the member for Dover; and it is quite evident that the former does not care what he says, while the latter is always in a state of mental reservation. By the time Sir Robert had finished it was clear that the debate would close that night; and, although the discussion ran for several hours through the minor keys, it was observable that, as soon as Mr. Henley's efforts to deliver his manifesto were successful, the beginning of the end would be at hand. It was, indeed, whispered about the precincts of the House that Mr. Disraeli would rise as soon after ten o'clock as he could; and when, therefore, Mr. Roebuck, displaying a reticence and a patience unusual with him, by waiting through so many days of the debate, gave the proper and dignified opportunity, the Ministerial chief presented himself, with an air of ease and alacrity which argued a foregone conclusion in his mind, and a preparedness to face the situation, which was in strong contrast to his manner when he last asked the verdict of what he knew was a hostile House of Commons.

For this time he did not seem to feel it necessary to play like a gambler for his last stake. It was not a case for anything that was odd, eccentric, risky, dangerous, desperate. It is true he spoke all through, and especially at the close of his address, in that strange, unnatural voice which he seems to reserve for great occasions, but which every well-wisher of his would fain desire him to eschew altogether. His natural tones are good, and his voice, when left to its normal capabilities, is not without its charm upon the ear. Why, then, should it be strained into a sharp falsetto, with a lachrymose modulation which is not effective, and is, as nearly as possible, disagreeable? However, the great point was gained, and that was that his speech read well. He did not care for the House, for he held its existence in the hollow of his hand; but he did care that the public should be able to read an argument, and to dwell upon a vindication of the acts of the Ministry and their peculiar position during the last twelve months; and in this respect he was thoroughly successful. With the exception of his somewhat fierce outburst on Lord John Russell personally, which was legitimate enough under the circumstances, the speech was one that after it was concluded the listeners thought they had not cared to hear, but it appeared as a great State paper in the columns of the newspapers the next morning, and that was probably exactly what was wanted. At an earlier hour than could have been hoped for, that immense congregation of members which crowded and clung about every possible and impossible avenue and corner of that House sunk into profound silence as the Speaker put the question in that absurd technical way which but for the popularising of the results of divisions by the fourth estate would puzzle the anxious lieges of Great Britain at the breakfast-table in a most unsatisfactory manner. No test of the numbers could be caught from the alternate shouts of "Ay!" and "No!" which succeeded; but, on the whole, we should say that for once the Liberals outbid the Country party in the earnestness and intensity of their cry. When the hitherto-ranged crowd broke into confusion on the floor the most accustomed and most searching eye could not distinguish into which lobby the majority was pressing. No wonder, when as between six hundred and twenty-one members who were to be divided into two sections the difference was only thirty-nine. Of course, when such a large number had to pass through those narrow wicket-gates in the lobbies—which are the last instruments of the fate of Ministries and of measures—an unusual time was occupied before the tellers for the "Ayes"—that is those who voted for the Ministry—were seen to force their way through the crowd at the bar and bring their total to the table. As they came in first it was of course known that the Government was defeated, because it had taken less time to ascertain the number of their supporters than those of the Opposition, the tellers for which were still occupied in counting. A slight cheer was raised; but, when the tellers took up their position on the floor of the House, the occupation of the right-hand side by those for the "Noes" told the tale at once, and the first shout broke out, shortly to be suppressed, while the numbers were to be delivered. It was easy in such a crowded, flustered, and excited House to fall into erroneous judgments, but it seemed as if the cheering which succeeded was not so loud and long-continued as one has often heard it before on like occasions. If so it was not discreditable to the House as a body, because it marked a seriousness in their consideration of what was taking place, which had in it the elements of something more than a mere party triumph. There can be no doubt that full many an honest and advanced Reformer, besides Mr. Berkeley, Mr. Bright, Mr. Milner Gibson, and others, who followed them out of the House when the next division took place, felt the inopportune pressing the question of the ballot to a division at such a moment. However, it does not often occur that a small member of Parliament can get 621 members together and thus stand a chance of being written down in history or "The Annual Register" as having forced a division on the fullest House that has been assembled for some years. There was not a trace of the future of the next three days either in the voice or the countenance of Mr. Disraeli as he moved the adjournment until Monday. For aught that could be gathered from his appearance, it might have been a motion for giving the House that holiday on the Derby Day which will now be rendered unnecessary by the dissolution.

When the Prime Minister, on Friday evening, briefly informed the House that he meant to keep his secret until Monday evening, almost every listener, as his words, cautious as they were, fell upon his ear, muttered or ejaculated, "A new Parliament!" Nevertheless, the guiders of public opinion were almost unanimous on that day in disabusing their readers of that notion; and sooth to say, that for nearly the whole of the time of his brief address to the House of Commons Mr. Disraeli did much to encourage that

erroneous idea. Nothing could have been in better taste than his address. It was so bland, so courteous, so every thing to every man that it sounded like a valediction on the part of the Ministry, and not, as it proved, a well-bred prelude to the kicking down of the present Parliament. He probably, however, did not forget that, whatever might be the changes and chances of a general election, it was most likely that he would have to meet the great bulk of those he was addressing some two months hence, and it was but politic that they should not have any recollection of insolence or defiance in the performance of the solemn act of sending them packing to the country. It was not a little amusing to see how completely the Opposition accepted Mr. Disraeli's definition of their divided condition; for, one after the other, Lord Palmerston, Lord John Russell, and Mr. Bright rose to speak for his peculiar section, and to make his bid for the future. But still more significant was it when a fourth claim to leadership of some sort or the other was put in by Mr. Horsman; and no greater proof of the utter dislocation and want of cohesion in the Liberal party could be found than in the fact that even Sir Denham Norreys could describe their position with ludicrous accuracy, and taunt them, goodnaturedly, as his manner is, for going to the country without having combined to create a "cry."

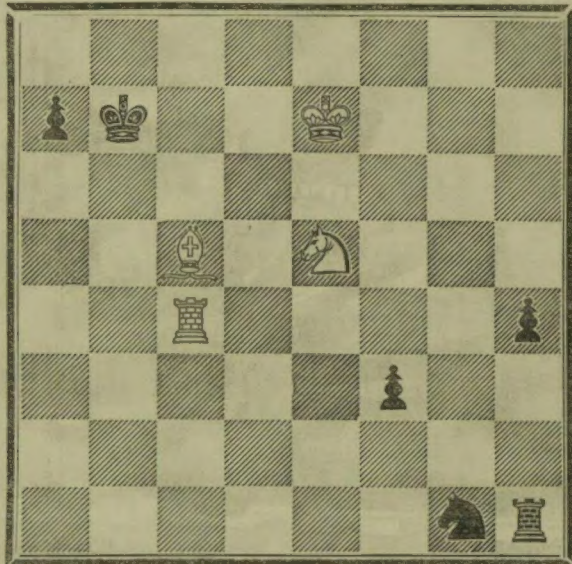
In the mean time what was Lord Derby doing in the Upper House? Why, to use a colloquial expression, putting his foot into it. Although it was perfectly true that he was not addressing an assembly which, like the House of Commons, had to be dealt with tenderly, even though it was about to cease to be an active entity, yet he should not have forgotten that he was, in fact, speaking to a public not too well satisfied that he should avail himself of a privilege to keep himself in power, a step which opportunities enough and to spare will occur to requite. What need had he to deliver that fiery, aggressive, angry declamation, which might have well fitted a Minister driven from office, but came ill from one who—if he was asking anything by his appeal to the people—was praying for suzerainty and further trial on promises of good behaviour? It can only be accounted for by that peculiarity about Lord Derby's career which causes him to seem as if he does not like to be on the winning side, and which has always made his moment of triumph the eve of his downfall. However, the shaft has been shot; and on Tuesday evening there was comparative desolation in the body of the House, while in the lobby every second man you ran against was an election-agent.

CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 790.

By J. B., of Bridport.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 787.

- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--|--------|
| 1. Q to K Kt 3rd | B to Q 7th | 3. Q to K Kt 8th. Mate. | BLACK. |
| 2. Q to Q Kt 8th | B to Q Kt 5th | (If Black play 1. B to Q R 4th, White's K takes B, and Q mates.) | |

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 788.

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|---|-----------------------------|---|--------|
| 1. Kt to K 6th | K takes Kt at K 5th, or (d) | (a) L. | WHITE. |
| 2. R takes K B P | K to Q 4th | (If Pawn moves, then White plays 2. Kt from K 4th to Q 5th (dis. ch), and 3. B or R mates.) | BLACK. |
| (If K to K 4th, then follows 2. R to K 3rd (ch), and 4. B to Q Kt 4th. Mate.) | | 2. R to K B 5th. Any move | |
| 3. B takes P at Q B 7th K moves | | 2. B takes P at Q B 7th Any move | |
| 4. R to K B 4th, Q 8th, or Q 3rd. Mate | | 4. R to K 5th. Mate. | |

MR. MORPHY.—The American champion left Paris on Wednesday, the 6th inst., in company with Mr. De Riviere, one of the leading French chessplayers, and arrived in London the following day. After a brief sojourn in the metropolis, Mr. Morphy proceeds to Liverpool, en route for his native country, which he will probably reach by the end of the month.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AN ADMIRER, &c.—The game between two amateurs is not of sufficient interest for publication. Let us see some specimens of their future play.

H. R. S. Northampton.—In the Solution of Problem No. 783 all that is required is, in Variation (a), for "mating next move," to read "mating in two more moves."

R. B. D.—The "Sphinx" problem, which forms the frontispiece to the "Chess Players' Handbook," is the invention of the Rev. Horatio Bolton. The conditions are, "White, playing first, mates in eleven moves;" but the ingenious composer himself, shortly after the publication of the puzzle, discovered a solution in eight moves, we believe.

ROBIN AND BEATRICE.—1. The Queen is guarded by the Knight, and cannot therefore be captured by the King. 2. The Black Pawn can, of course, be moved two steps in the position you adduce. What is to hinder him? If the White Pawn were one step less advanced, then White might take the Pawn in passing if he chose. We must repeat that the answers to such childish inquiries should be sought in some rudimentary treatise on the game, and not from a public journal.

A. CORNWALL STURGEON.—The quaint, old-fashioned little book, in two volumes, called "Specimens of Hindustani Excellence, &c.," was published many years ago by Lewis, and may still occasionally be met with. Apply to Mr. Skeet, publisher, King William-street, Charing cross.

G. D. of R.—Quite right.

W. B., I. F. M., and others.—In Enigma 1099, by W. C. S., a White Bishop is required at White's Q Kt 4th. Without this piece the solution is impracticable.

G. M., Aberdeen.—They are, perhaps, suitable for Enigmas.

TARTANETTE, Liverpool.—We can discover no flaw in your variation of the Muzio Gambit (White's 16th move) at the first examination; but, before pronouncing a decided opinion upon it, we should require to analyse it with the most scrupulous attention.

LARSEN.—Say, 3. P to K 4th; the only folk who adhere to the senseless, antiquated form of 3. K to P 2, are such as still insist upon playing in preference to the lucifer. The move is utterly useless; White, in reply, will, of course, play his Bishop to Q B 4th, and proceed as in the ordinary game.

MAIDEN BRADLEY.—Yes. See notice to C. W. S. in our Number for March 26.

B. Y., D. E. F., R. HAMMILL, I. WILLS.—If correspondents would be so considerate enough to reflect that every question sent to us regarding a game or problem involves the trouble of reference to that game or problem—playing the former through, and carefully setting up and examining the latter—they would occasionally look twice before writing. A minute's attention to our last diagram would show that White cannot give mate in two moves in the way proposed, since Black's first move places his King in check.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMA No. 1100, by Argus, Odipus, Lex, P. D., W. S. L., Sligo, Omicron, P. G., W. C., Barnstable; George & Green, Bumble, S. H. L., L. B., Stephen, R. S., Malmes; Louis d'Or, W. H. C., X. Y. Z., M. D., C. M. L. T., Czar, Philo-Chess, Peter Quari, Leon, Felix, Annie, True Blue, O. C. D., G. H. D., C. P. P., German, S. H. F., Grex, C. P. C., Antony, Peterkin, M. P., Miles, F. R. S., A. Kling-ite, A. F., C. S., Richmond, G. M., Aberdeen, Larry, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM 789, by Argus, Odipus, Lex, P. D., W. S. L., Sligo, Omicron, P. G., W. C., Barnstable; George & Green, Bumble, S. H. L., L. B., Stephen, R. S., Malmes; Louis d'Or, W. H. C., X. Y. Z., M. D., C. M. L. T., Czar, Philo-Chess, Peter Quari, Leon, Felix, Annie, True Blue, O. C. D., G. H. D., C. P. P., German, S. H. F., Grex, C. P. C., Antony, Peterkin, M. P., Miles, F. R. S., A. Kling-ite, A. F., C. S., Richmond, G. M., Aberdeen, Larry, are correct. All others are wrong.

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*A amateur chessplayer wishing to play a game by correspondence may hear of an antagonist by addressing a note Alpha Beta, Post-office, New Bedford, Nottingham.—An amateur of moderate strength would be glad to play one or two games by correspondence with another. Address W. D. F., 74 Waterloo-road, Liverpool.

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath has been conferred on Lord Canning and Elphinstone.

The deliveries of tea in London estimated for last week were 781,031 lb., a decrease of 153,476 lb. compared with the previous statement.

Mr. J. Carey Dobbs, M.P. for Carrickfergus, is appointed Judge of the Landed Estates Court, Dublin, vacant by the death of Mr. Martley.

Fifty-eight pilgrims have just left Paris for Jerusalem, under the superintendence of the Duke de Lorges.

A deputation recently waited upon Lord Derby for the purpose of advocating the acceptance of the cession of the Feejee Islands.

Captain Sayer, son-in-law of Colonel the Hon. Sir C. Phipps, has been appointed "civil magistrate" at Gibraltar.

A lady at Leeds has been killed by swallowing four false teeth in her sleep.

Galignani reports the suicide of a female servant near Rochelle through vexation at her repeated accidents in breaking crockery.

M. Perrotin's appeal to those who had correspondence with Béranger has already called in 2200 of his letters.

The council of the Church Penitentiary Association have received a donation of £1000 from "T. H. E."

The *New York Times* says that Mr. C. B. Norton, of that city, will soon sail for Europe, to purchase rare and valuable books for American colleges.

The Rev. Canon Slade has stated his intention to present to the cathedral of Chester a stained glass window, in memorial of his recovery from a serious illness.

The question of costs in the great *Swinfen v. Swinfen* case was decided in the Court of Probate and Divorce last week. Each party to pay its own.

Among the passengers by the *Ripon*, from India, on Monday, was Mrs. Hodson, the widow of the heroic officer who captured the Great Mogul and his sons soon after the siege of Delhi had terminated.

The Jamaica papers speak loudly of the excellence of allspice or pimento as a smoking material far superior to tobacco. It is stated to be getting into general use on the island.

The Queen has approved of Mr. J. O. Hay as Consul at Akyab for his Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway; and of Mr. A. Wise as Consul in the island of Ceylon for his Majesty the King of Prussia.

The *Scotsman* states that a party of the Drumdryan Curling Club met on their pond, near the Meadows, on Friday, the 1st inst., and played for nearly three hours.

On Wednesday se'night the lecture session of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution was closed by an address from Lord Neaves on the subject of Oral Literature.

Mr. Palk, M.P., is announced to deliver a lecture at the Temperance Hall, Torquay, during the Easter recess, on the "Dwellings of the Poor."

It is stated in an Algerian journal that Abd-el-Kader has written memoirs of his life, and that a French literary man is now engaged in revising them for publication.

The 58th Regiment of Infantry, after an absence of several years on service at New Zealand, arrived at Shorncliffe Camp last week, where the regiment will be permanently stationed.

We learn that a grand display of falconry will take place on Lincoln Common, about the latter end of June, under the auspices of the Deputy Grand Falconer of England.

The Speaker gave his eighth Parliamentary full-dress dinner on Saturday last, the 2nd inst., to a number of noblemen and gentlemen. The right hon. gentleman afterwards held a levee, which was fully attended.

The Government emigrant-ship *Clara*, 708 tons, which sailed from Southampton on the 1st of October with 255 emigrants, arrived at Adelaide, South Australia, on the 20th of January.

The Oxford and Cambridge eight-oared race has been finally fixed for Friday next, the 15th inst. The alteration from Saturday to Friday has given general satisfaction.

The *Senaphore* of Marseilles states that in the space of six months twenty-four tenor singers have made their debut at the theatre of that place.

Vesuvius is in a chronic state of eruption, and at night the lava, which still continues to issue slowly from the base, glows with unabated splendour, illuminating the sky with a dusky red hue.

The Queen has appointed Major-General Marcus John Slade to be Lieutenant-Governor of the Island of Guernsey. Colonel Blomfield, the General's successor at Colchester, has assumed the command of the camp.

The expedition of M. Miani for the exploration of the sources of the Nile sailed from Marseilles on Saturday last, on board the *Tamise* steamer, belonging to the Messageries Impériales.

Forty-nine vessels, with one thousand one hundred hands, have this season taken their departure for the Greenland fisheries, touching at Orkney and Zetland to fill up their crews.

A monument is to be erected in St. Paul's to the late Bishop of London, a sum of £1200 being at the disposal of a committee for the purpose. They have issued invitations to compete eighteen artists.

The Metropolitan Police Force is at present being regularly drilled at the Wellington Barracks by experienced sergeants now serving in the force.

The Rev. Dr. Cumming preached on Sunday afternoon at the Oratoire, Paris, where there were upwards of eighteen hundred people present. The rev. gentleman preached there again on Tuesday.

On the 4th of February there was a decrease of 104,373, or 10.68 per cent, in the number of paupers in receipt of relief in England and Wales. The decrease extends to every week in the month, and in the first and second weeks was 11 per cent.

A correspondent of the *Birmingham Journal* states that a boatload of waste gun-barrels has been received at Wednesbury from the Government factories, to be remelted, and that a short time previously about half a boatload of pistols were received for the same purpose.

The widow of Admiral Bruges has just died, aged ninety, after raising a statue to her husband (who was blown up in his flag-ship *L'Orient*, at the battle of the Nile) at Uzer, on the Mediterranean. She leaves three millions of francs, mostly in charity.

At a meeting of gentlemen just held in Leeds a resolution has been adopted in favour of the erection in that town of a new theatre, and of raising a capital of £15,000 in £10 shares, the property to be vested in trustees. A provisional committee has been appointed.

The Prince Consort has consented to patronise the performance of Haydn's celebrated cantata, "The Seasons," at Exeter Hall, on the 10th of May next, for the benefit of the London Society for the Protection of Young Females.

An accident has happened at Rio de Janeiro on the Don Pedro Railway. The locomotive ran off the rails, causing the death of three persons, among whom was the inspector-general of the railway. Besides the killed, six persons were injured.

The visitors at the South Kensington Museum were:—On Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday (free days), 3499; on Monday and Tuesday (evenings), 3290; on the three students' days (admission to the public 6d.), 642; one students' evening, Wednesday, 109; total, 7540.

Upwards of 12,000 people, 22 mourning-coaches, and 75 private carriages, attended the funeral of Mr. O'Callaghan, a Roman Catholic clergyman, at Liverpool, on Sunday. The remains of the deceased gentleman were interred at the new Cemetery at Aigburth.

The Parliamentary Committee on the Metropolitan Gas Supply broke up on Friday, the 1st inst., after a long, and it is said stormy, discussion, with closed doors, having come to no decision as to what they would recommend to the House.

A young woman, named Ellen Hardy, pleaded guilty at Bow-street, on Thursday week, of decoying children away and stealing their clothes. Mr. Henry sentenced her to the severest penalty in his power—six months' hard labour.

The wretched man Corbett, who murdered his wife at West Bromwich last week, and then cut his own throat, still lingers, and is supplied with food, notwithstanding his wound, by means of a stomach-pump.

Edward Ball, Esq., M.P. for Cambridgeshire, addressed on Sunday afternoon about 3000 children and 300 teachers of Sabbath schools, in Surrey Chapel (the Rev. Newman Hall's). Crowds sought admission in vain.

The Dean and Chapter of Chichester have decided upon a complete restoration of the choir of their cathedral as a memorial of the late Dean, Dr. Chandler. Mr. Slater is the architect appointed; the estimated cost is £5000.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

With Frontispiece by ABSOLON, fcap 8vo, price 2s. 6d., cloth, **SUNDAY EVENINGS WITH SOPHIA**; or, Little Talks on Great Subjects. By LEONORA G. BELL. "The work is manifestly the production of an earnest and enlightened Christian."—Morning Herald. "There is a great deal of the beauty of religion in this volume."—Clerical Journal. GRIFFITH and FARRAN, Corner of St. Paul's Churchyard.

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BALZARINES.—PATTERNS POST-FREE. Wire-ground Balzarines .. 6d. yard. Best Printed ditto .. 8d. " " Best Chintz ditto .. 10d. " " Flounced Balzarines .. 10s. 6d. Robe. BAKER and CRISP, 221, Regent-street (entrance, Maddox-street).

MOHAIRS.—PATTERNS POST-FREE. Striped, Checked, and Chené Mohairs .. 8d. a yard. Bourne Mohairs .. 10d. " " Plain and Printed Llamas .. from 8d. " BAKER and CRISP, 221, Regent-street (entrance, Maddox-street).

MUSLINS.—PATTERNS POST-FREE. Fine Organdi Muslins .. 3s. 6d.—12 yards. Flounced and double Skirts .. 4s. 9d. to 5 guineas. BAKER and CRISP, 221, Regent-street (entrance, Maddox-street).

THE PRINCESS FREDERICK WILLIAM DRESS, made up from checked Cashmeres, trimmed with silk, producing the effect of double Skirt, with the new Russian Jacket, complete, 25s. 6d. Drawing at Patterns free. The LONDON and PARIS WAREHOUSE, 324 and 325, High Holborn.

THE SHEPHERD-CHECK FLOUNCED DRESS, lined, elegantly trimmed with velvet, and material for Bodice, 14s. 9d.; made up with Paris Jacket, 18s. 6d. Cashmere Check Dress, rich dupace side trimmings, with material for Bodice, 14s. 9d.; with French Jacket, 18s. 6d. Drawings and Patterns post-free. The LONDON and PARIS WAREHOUSE, 324 and 325, High Holborn.

NEW SPRING CAMBRIC DRESSES, made up with Plain or Double Skirt, with the new Self-expanding Jacket, 7s. 11d., 10s. 9d., 12s. 9d. Patterns free. The LONDON and PARIS WAREHOUSE, 324 and 325, High Holborn.

THE TIME TO BUY MUSLINS CHEAP. Fast-coloured Organdi Muslins, 4d. to 9d. per yard. Rich Flounced Muslins, 6s. 11d., 10s. 9d., 14s. 6d. Patterns free. Great Bargains in Flounced Balzarine Robes, 9s. 11d., 13s. 9d. Rich French Flounced Bareges, 18s. 9d., 25s. 6d., 31s. 6d. The LONDON and PARIS WAREHOUSE, 324 and 325, High Holborn.

BLACK FRENCH GLACE SILKS, beautifully bright, wide, and all silk, 35s. 6d., 42s., 12s. yards. Rich Black and Coloured Moiré Antique Dresses, 45s. Rich Flounced Silks, 24 to 31 guineas. Patterns free. The LONDON and PARIS WAREHOUSE, 324 and 325, High Holborn.

FASHIONABLE MOHAIR TEXTURES. Neck Checks, Chené, and Bars, cut by the yard. Rich Robes, with two deep flounces, 16s. 9d. to 42s. The LONDON and PARIS WAREHOUSE, 324 and 325, High Holborn.

FASHIONABLE MANTLES and JACKETS. Our New Spring Cloth Mantles, 14s. 9d., 18s. 9d., 25s. The Scarborough Hooded Tweed Cloak, 12s. 9d., 15s. 9d., 21s. New French Shape Cloth Jackets, 9s. 11d., 12s. 9d., 18s. 6d. New Muslin Jackets, 8s. 9d., 12s. 9d. Lace Jackets, 14s. 9d., 21s. The LONDON and PARIS WAREHOUSE, 324 and 325, High Holborn.

EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS in CASHMERE SHAWLS—5 guineas.—FARMER and ROGERS are now selling a Manufacturer's Stock of new-pattern FRENCH CASHMERE SHAWLS, of beautiful quality, at 2s. above unusually low prices. New-pattern Paisley Shawls 4s. and 5s. India Shawls bought and changed.—371, 373, 375, Regent-street, W.

Established in 1778. CAPPER, SON, and CO., LINENDRAPERS, by Appointment, to the QUEEN, having, for successive generations, enjoyed the confidence of a connection of the highest rank of respectability, do not propose to enter into competition with the advertised prices and other pretensions of the linen-draper now manufactured for sale only. They respectfully adopt any real improvement or economy in manufacture; and, as they command great advantage for the supply of serviceable Family Linens, they desire only a comparison of their prices with a fair trial of their goods. Gentlemen furnishing, or Families sorting up their Household Linens, supplied by CAPPER, SON, and CO., 69, GRACECHURCH-ST., LONDON, E.C., with every information.

LINENDRAPERS TO THE QUEEN BY APPOINTMENT. Established in 1778. BABIES' BASSINETS. Trimmed and Furnished. Ready for use, are sent home free of carriage. BABIES' BASKETS. Trimmed and Furnished to correspond. CAPPER, SON, and CO., 69, GRACECHURCH-ST., LONDON, E.C. Descriptive Lists, with Prices, sent free by post.

Sent post-free, Descriptive Lists of COMPLETE SETS of BABY LINEN, which are sent home throughout the Kingdom free of carriage. UNDERCLOTHING FOR HOME, INDIA, AND THE COLONIES for Ladies and Children of all ages.

LINENDRAPERS TO THE QUEEN BY APPOINTMENT. Established in 1778. LADIES' WEDDING OUTFITS. Descriptive Lists, with Prices, sent free by post. CAPPER, SON, and CO., 69, GRACECHURCH-ST., LONDON, E.C.

BLACK SILKS, the CHEAPEST and BEST, in French and Spitalfields Glaces, at 3s. 6d. the Full Dress of twelve yards, wide width; Rich Dupaces and Gros de Naples, from one guinea the Dress. Warranted to wear well. Patterns free by post, at JAMES CARTER'S, Belgrave House, Knightsbridge.

NEW SILKS.—All the New Spring Silks, in Plain, Mill Rayé, and Bar or Cross-over Glace, commencing at 23s. 4d. yard, cut in any length. Patterns by post free. N.B. A parcel of new two-bounced Robes much under price. At JAMES CARTER'S, Belgrave House, Knightsbridge.

MESSRS. SWAN and EDGAR beg to announce that they have very advantageously purchased the whole of a Manufacturer's Stock of NEW and RICH TWO-FLOUNCE CHINE SILK DRESSES, which they have NOW ON SALE. Piccadilly and Regent-street.

HOUSEHOLD LINEN DEPARTMENT.—JOHN HARVEY, SON, and CO., of 9, Ludgate-hill, established upwards of 50 years, will send patterns or samples, free, for inspection or comparison, of their rich DOUBLE DAMASK TABLE CLOTHS, with Napkins and Slip-cloths to match, diaper and damask, by the yard, 6-4, 7-4, 8-4, and 10-4 wide; sheetings in width from 1 to 24 yards; cotton sheeting from 1 to 3 yards wide; huckabacks, medical, Baden-Baden, roll towings, glass and knife cloths, dusters, &c., made up and marked upon the shortest notice. Carriage paid upon amounts above 2s. Families waited upon at home in London.

SILKS, Rich, Plain, Striped, and Checked Glaces, at 23s. 4d. per Dress of 12 yards—well worth the attention of Families. Patterns sent free by post. Also, Patterns and Prices of their rich stock of Silks.—JOHN HARVEY, SON, and CO., 9, Ludgate-hill. Established upwards of 50 years. Carriage paid upon amounts above 2s.

VALENCIENNES LACE, made with genuine linen thread, scarcely distinguishable from the real French, very durable, yet sold at one-tenth of the price. Samples post-free. BAKER and DOWDEN, Upper Eaton-street, Eaton-square, S.W.

THE NEW BUILDINGS, 103, 105, 106, 107, and 108, Oxford-street. PETER ROBINSON respectfully announces the completion of his New Premises, and having added two houses, as well as having enlarged the former premises, has been able to extend all departments of the Establishment. P. R. also respectfully solicits a visit of inspection to the three New Showrooms (pronounced the largest in London). Separate rooms for Ladies' and Children's Outfitting, Under-Clothing, &c., &c. Ready-made dresses, of every description; also Dressmaking at very moderate charges. Patterns, prices, and estimates, free.

FAMILY MOURNING.—AT PETER ROBINSON'S FAMILY and GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE the largest and best selection in London, both made up and in the piece. Ladies and Families will save both time and expense by forwarding their orders at once to his Warehouse. Goods sent to any part of town or country free, accompanied by the dressmaker if necessary; or ladies forwarding their pattern bodies will meet with best attention. Address as above, 103, Oxford-street, London.

SUPERIOR BLACK SILKS.—Black Silks, in every make, from 30s. to 63s. Rich Black Flounced Robes, from 24 guineas. Shades of Grey and Half-Mourning, at half prices. Patterns free.—Address, PETER ROBINSON, FAMILY and GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE, 103, Oxford-street, London.

BLACK BAREGES that will not split and GREENADINES of superior permanent dye, manufactured to order expressly for this Warehouse. Patterns of the various new makes free. Address, PETER ROBINSON, FAMILY MOURNING WAREHOUSE, 103, Oxford-street, London.

HALF-MOURNING FABRICS. New Patterns in beautiful textures. Patterns free on application to PETER ROBINSON, FAMILY MOURNING WAREHOUSE, 103, Oxford-street, London.

PATTERNS POST-FREE. RICH SILKS at £1 5s. 9d. the Full Dress. PETER ROBINSON respectfully requests his Customers, and Ladies in general to write for Patterns of the above Silks, which are all warranted the widest width, thoroughly good in quality, and free from any mixture of cotton, affording great variety for selection. Patterns post-free, as also of— The new Fancy Silks, at £1 7s. 9d. Rich Bayadere Bars, at £1 5s. 9d. Fancy Jasper Silks, at £1 13s. 9d. Gros de Naples, at £1 15s. 9d. Brocades, at £1 19s. 9d. A large Stock of very rich flounced Silk Robes, at £2 12s. 9d. PETER ROBINSON, Silk Merchant, 103, 105, 106, 107, 108, Oxford-st.

THE HALF-GUINEA CLOTH JACKET.—The Guinea and a Half Velvet Jacket. A novelty in White French Muslin Jacket, 12s. 9d. A very pretty Black Lace Jacket, 12s. 9d.

MOHAIRS, BAREGES, MUSLINS, CASHMERES, CAMBRICS, for Dresses, made up ready for wear. By far the most tasteful and largest variety is to be seen at the FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY'S WAREHOUSE, 16, Oxford-street. A PERFECT LADY'S DRESS. A Cashmere Dress with rich dupace side trimmings, price 14s. 9d. Bodice included; a well-fitted made-up half-skirt, 18s. 6d. The Black Glace Silks are particularly worthy of attention. Any of the above goods in equal variety cut by the yard. Illustrations and Patterns post-free.

THE TIME TO BUY MUSLINS CHEAP. Last year's clearing out at ridiculous prices. A large variety of French Muslins, Balzarines, and Bareges. The Mourning Muslins are greatly reduced. THE FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY, 16, OXFORD-STREET.

LADIES' FRENCH RIDING HABITS, price 34 guineas, more elegant than those of London tailor at 8 guineas. Young Ladies' and both Riding Habits, 2 guineas. THE FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY, 16, OXFORD-STREET.

SEWELL and CO. respectfully solicit an inspection of their Novelties in English and Foreign Manufactures. Rich Silks of every description. Cloaks and Mantles in all the new shapes. Evening and Ball Dresses, with the new Soie des Pées, in Robes à Volants, or cut in any lengths. Morning and Carriage Dresses in Mohairs, and New Fancy Fabrics (the skirts made complete). Ribbons, Laces, Gloves, Shawls, and Embroideries. COMPTON HOUSE, Finsbury-street, Soho.

LADIES' WATERPROOF TWEED CLOAKS and RIDING JACKETS, Gentlemen's Overcoats and Inverness Capes. Prices of material and prices sent post-free. J. E. and W. PHILLIPS, 37, High-street, Shrewsbury.

TO LADIES—FANCY NEEDLEWORKS, and other articles of taste, in Wool, Silk, Beads, &c. An extensive assortment, commenced and finished. Every article for the Work-table, Dress-trimmings in great variety. WOODALL (late Gatto), 202, Regent-street, opposite Conduit-street.

R. TUCKEY and COMPANY, Baby Linen and Outfitting Warehouse, 57, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square. A complete set of Baby Linen for One Guinea. Every article in Ladies' Underclothing at Tuckey and Company's.

JOUVIN'S REAL ALPINE KID GLOVES. FIRST QUALITY!!! Ladies', 1s. 6d.; Gentlemen's, 1s. 9d. per pair. Every Pair Warranted and stamped inside. JOUVIN'S PATENT!!! Sold only by RUMBLE and OWEN, 77 and 78, Oxford-street. N.B. A Sample Pair free by post for two extra stamps.

A BOON TO LADIES in the COUNTRY.—THE RESILIENT BODICE, CORSALETTA DI MEDICI, and LA PRIMA DONNA CORSETS are sent post-free without any extra charge. It is by this liberal regulation, placing them within reach of every lady in the land, that they have become to thousands upon thousands not only a luxury, but a necessity, alike in regard to health, elegance, and convenience. Illustrated prospectus, price list, self-measurement papers, &c., post-free. Mesdames MARION and MAITLAND Patentes, 238, Oxford-street.

OUTFITS for INDIA and CHINA supplied by THRESHER and GLENNY, 152, Strand, London.

DUNN'S TAILORS' LABOUR AGENCY, Newington-causeway (both sides). Whilst making the lowest charges, it pays high wages, and offers the largest show of ADULT and JUVENILE CLOTHING.

SHIRTS.—RODGERS'S IMPROVED CORAZZA SHIRTS, 31s. 6d. and 42s. the half-dozen. Important improvements having been made in these celebrated shirts, gentlemen are respectfully solicited to suspend their orders until they have seen them. For ease, elegance, and durability, they have no rival. Book of 80 Illustrations and detailed particulars gratis and post-free.—RODGERS and CO., Improved Shirtnakers, 69, Saint Martin's-lane, Charing-cross, W.C.—Established 60 years.

DRINKING-FOUNTAINS.

In a former Number we stated that an association was being formed for the purpose of erecting and promoting the erection of drinking-fountains in the metropolis.

On Tuesday next, at three o'clock, a public meeting will be held in Willis's Rooms for the purpose of formally inaugurating the association, and bringing the merits of the movement prominently before the public. Lord Carlisle has consented to preside, supported by Lord Shaftesbury, Mr. Gurney, M.P. for Falmouth (who originated the movement in London), and other distinguished philanthropists. We have little doubt that the object will receive the amount of public support of which it is so deserving. The accompanying Engraving represents a mural fountain to be shortly erected by the association in the parish of St. Mary, Islington. The cup, which is of porcelain enamelled iron-ware, stands in an alcove of white marble. The latter is surrounded with elegantly-designed framework of bronze. The contrast of the bronze with the white marble will have a pleasing effect; whilst the cool and pure appearance of the latter is exactly adapted to the purposes of a drinking-fountain. It is designed and will be executed by Messrs. Wills and Co., Euston-road.

Impressed with the desirability of these fountains supplying the public with absolutely pure water, the association have resolved not to erect, nor sanction the erection of, any fountain without a filter: particular pains have been taken to ascertain the most efficient and durable kind. For this purpose several have been referred, for the analysis of their purifying powers, to Drs. Letheby and Lankester.

We cannot conclude without adverting to the liberality with which the vestry of St. Mary's, Islington, have treated the subject, agreeing to take on themselves the payment of the water-rate of four fountains, and also a proportion of the expense of each, on the condition of the association completing the fountains. It is hoped that other local bodies will act in a similar spirit of enlightened liberality.

The necessity for these fountains in the metropolis and elsewhere seems now to be generally felt, and an earnest desire has been shown to supply this want of great towns. A drinking-fountain in the wall of St. Sepulchre's churchyard, of which we intend giving an Engraving in an early Number, has recently been completed; and two fountains were opened on Tuesday week, as recorded in our last Number, at the approach to the South-Eastern Railway Company's terminus at London-bridge. Other towns have, however, been beforehand with the metropolis in this laudable work. In Liverpool a large number of public drinking-fountains has been erected at the expense of a merchant of that town. We give an Engraving of one of these; also of one in the city of Chester, presented to the public by Mr. Peter Eaton.



DRINKING-FOUNTAIN TO BE ERECTED AT ISLINGTON.

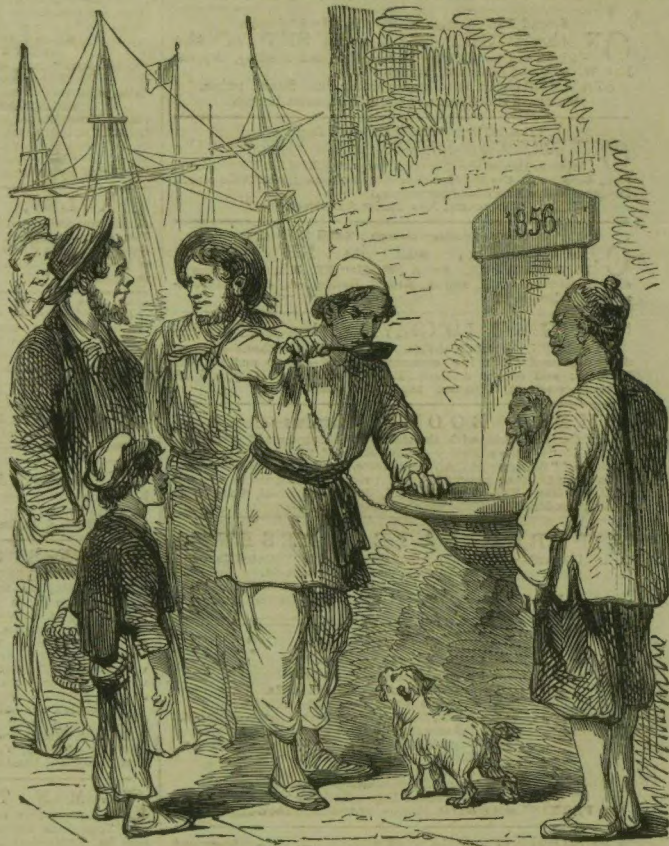
THE FIELD OF CLOTH OF GOLD.

This is the last of the series of bas-reliefs to be executed in bronze which ornament the middle panels of the Prince's Chamber, contiguous to the House of Lords. It is not yet fixed, the compartment destined for it being still vacant; but it is undergoing the operation of casting, and will shortly be ready for erection. It will be placed over the mantelpiece of the fireplace, in that part of the chamber which is on the right of the throne. These bas-reliefs are beautifully executed, for, although the figures are very small, and at the same time numerous, each stands out boldly from the grouping, and is in itself a work of much skill. The artist to whom the modeling has been intrusted is Mr. Theed, whose name is of itself a guarantee for the graceful, spirited, and careful execution of the work. The meeting of Francis I. of France and Henry VIII. of England on the Field of Cloth of Gold is the incident in this singular passage in the Romance of History which the bas-relief illustrates. The grouping is very good, and great attention has been paid to the costume. The two Sovereigns, attended by their respective nobles, pages, and servants, have just met, and are saluting each other by raising their caps. Pavilions and tents fill the background. The subject corresponds with that of "The Knighting of Sir Francis Drake," which we engraved a few weeks ago, and forms a continuation of our Series of Illustrations to the new Palace of Westminster.

BURNS' CENTENARY FESTIVAL IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.—The *Polyglot News Letter*, a Melbourne publication, says:—"The centennial commemoration of the birth of Burns was celebrated in a festive spirit throughout the colony. In Melbourne 500 persons assembled at the Exhibition Building, and dined together in honour of the event. The Governor was present, and delivered two excellent speeches on the occasion. At Geelong, Ballarat, Castlemaine, Beechworth, Maldon, and many other places, North Britons and Southrons met together and sang in a strange land the songs of Robert Burns. Leading articles in the leading journals expatiated on his life and genius, and at the various theatres the performances were selected with a special reference to the celebration. In fact, the centenary assumed in all respects the character of a national festival."



FOUNTAIN ERECTED IN CHESTER BY MR. P. EATON.



ONE OF THE LIVERPOOL FOUNTAINS ERECTED BY MR. C. P. MELLY.



BAS-RELIEF IN THE PRINCE'S CHAMBER, WESTMINSTER PALACE.—MEETING OF HENRY VIII. OF ENGLAND AND FRANCIS I. OF FRANCE ON THE FIELD OF CLOTH OF GOLD.